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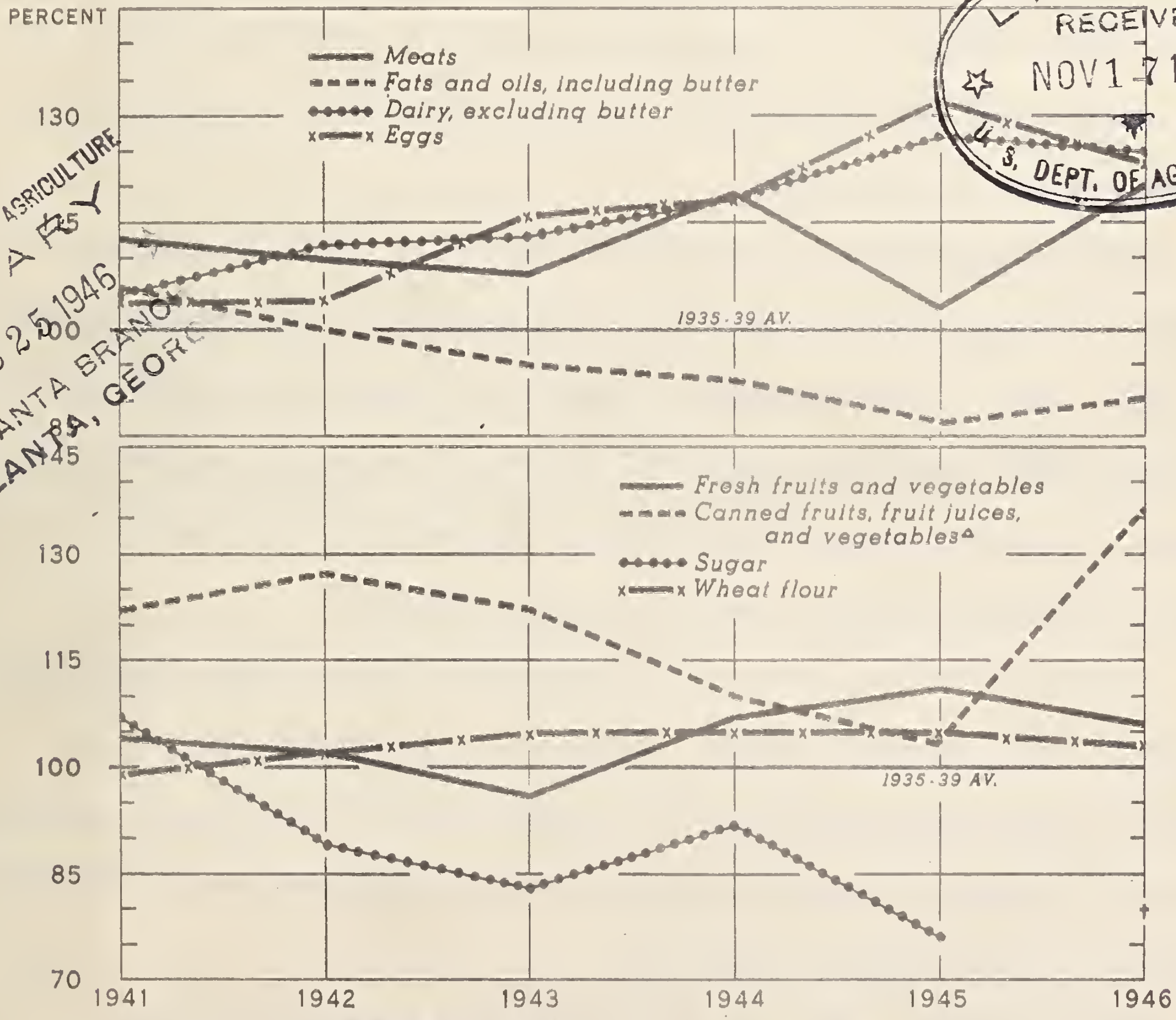
THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS - 31 BAE JANUARY 1946

CHANGES IN THE CIVILIAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF MAJOR FOODS, 1941-45*, AND PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS FOR 1946
INDEX NUMBERS (1935-39=100)



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* DATA FOR 1945 ARE PRELIMINARY
△ DATA ARE FOR PACK YEAR BEGINNING IN YEAR PRIOR TO YEAR INDICATED
† INDICATED AT SLIGHTLY ABOVE 1945

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45777 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Civilian food consumption per capita is expected to be larger in 1946 than in 1945 and to exceed the 1944 record. This forecast for 1946 is dependent, of course, upon crop yields being about average and consumer purchasing power remaining at a high level. The tight supply situation for sugar and butter will continue. Supplies of some foods such as meat, canned fish, other fats, canned fruit, corn products, and rice will be somewhat short at least for part of the year. Only sugar and fats consumption per capita are indicated to be below the prewar average.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

Approved by The Outlook and Situation Board, February 7, 1946

SUMMARY

Civilian per capita food consumption in the United States in 1946 is expected to be at least as large and may even exceed that of any previous year. This is in sharp contrast with the situation outside the United States with per capita world supplies for 1945-46 averaging about 12 percent below prewar levels.

Total food supplies of the United States in 1946 for domestic consumption, military use, and export are not expected to be greatly different from 1945. Despite some increase in exports to meet the critical needs of liberated areas, civilian consumption in the United States probably will be larger than last year. The proportion of the total food supply going to the armed services has been sharply reduced.

Civilian food supplies in the aggregate will be hardly sufficient to satisfy total domestic demand. Supplies of some foods will be substantially less than many groups of consumers would be willing to purchase at current prices, reflecting in some instances the necessity of substantial exports to prevent starvation abroad.

Most prominent among the foods that will be short throughout the year are sugar and butter. Civilian supplies of meat, canned fish,

fats, and canned fruits are expected to be insufficient to satisfy consumer demand in full at present prices during a large part of the year. The quantities of corn products and rice marketed in 1946 are expected to be smaller than in 1945. On the other hand, prospects are quite favorable for plentiful supplies of fresh and frozen fish, poultry products, dairy products except butter, citrus fruit, canned fruit juices, fresh and processed vegetables and potatoes. Despite the need for curtailing the use of wheat in the production of alcohol and beer and for increasing the wheat-flour extraction rate in order to meet export commitments, the consumption of wheat cereal products will continue higher than before the war although somewhat below 1945.

With the exception of lamb, mutton, veal and perhaps fluid milk, fresh vegetables and cereal products, civilian per capita consumption of individual foods this year will be at least as large as for the year 1945. Among the foods for which consumption per person is expected to be higher than in 1945 are beef, pork, fish, evaporated milk, cheese, fluid cream, lard, processed fruits and vegetables, and potatoes. A little more sugar may be available than last year.

The nutritive value of the 1946 per capita food supply is expected to be about the same as in 1945. This level is considerably higher in all nutrients than the prewar years. An average of about 3360 calories per person per day is expected for 1946 compared with 3250 in 1935-39. The effect of the recently announced wheat conservation program is to enhance slightly the protein, iron and B-vitamin, especially thiamine, content of the average diet.

Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption and civilian per capita food consumption, 1942-45, with percentage comparisons.

(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1942	1943	1944	1945 preliminary	1945 as a percentage of 1944
Food grains 2/	139	116	148	155	105
Truck crops 3/	129	124	135	143	106
Fruits and nuts 4/	117	107	123	115	93
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 5/	104	125	106	109	103
Sugar crops 6/	110	81	82	93	113
Total food crops 7/	124	116	129	130	101
Meat animals 8/	132	150	155	141	91
Poultry 9/	131	152	153	153	100
Dairy products 10/	114	113	116	120	103
Total food livestock	126	138	141	136	96
Total food production	125	132	138	135	98
Total agricultural production	124	128	136	130	96
Civilian per capita food consumption	107	106	111	110	99

1/ Production indexes are based on the December crop report and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products for the calendar year 1945.

2/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat.

3/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes, and watermelons) and truck crops for processing (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes).

4/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts.

5/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, sweetpotatoes.

6/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup.

7/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops.

8/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs.

9/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers.

10/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary indications for 1946, with percentage comparisons [1]

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	Prel. indication for 1946	1946 as a percentage of	
						1935-39	1945
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Percent	Percent
Meats (dressed weight)							
Beef	54.8	49.6	55.1	54.5	63	115	116
Veal	8.0	7.9	11.2	11.1	11	138	99
Lamb and mutton	6.7	6.4	6.6	7.0	6	90	86
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	72.4	76.7	58.9	70	125	119
Total meats	125.6	136.3	149.6	131.5	150	119	114
Poultry products							
Eggs [2]	37.3	43.1	43.9	48.8	45.6	122	93
Chicken (dressed weight)	17.9	28.0	23.6	24.6	24.0	134	98
Turkey (dressed weight)	2.6	3.4	3.3	4.4	4.6	177	105
Dairy products							
Total milk (whole milk equivalent)	801	761	788	802	810	102	102
Cheese	5.5	5.0	5.0	5.8	6.5	118	112
Cond. and evap. milk	16.7	18.6	16.1	18.2	19.8	119	109
Fluid milk and cream	340	403	423	447	430	126	96
Fats and oils							
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	16.7	11.7	12.0	10.5	10.5 – 11	66	105
Lard	11.0	14.6	13.9	11.9	12.6	115	106
Margarine	2.3	3.1	3.1	3.4	2.7	117	79
Shortening	11.7	9.8	9.2	9.9	16.2	90	101
Other edible fats & oils	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.2			
Total fats & oils [3]	48.0	45.6	44.6	41.9	42.0 – 42.5	89	101
Fruits							
Fresh							
Citrus	48.8	59.6	67.8	65.7	68	139	104
Apples (commercial)	30.2	25.1	26.5	23.2	80	189	99
Other (excluding melons)	59.5	36.2	50.3	57.6			
Total fresh	138.5	120.9	144.6	146.5	148	107	101
Processed							
Canned fruit	15.2	12.2	8.7	14.9	[5]	-	-
Canned juices	4.1	6.6	10.0	9.0	[5]	-	-
Frozen	[4] .7	1.3	2.0	1.9	[5]	-	-
Dried	5.7	5.9	6.4	5.7	[5]	-	-

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Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary indications for 1946, with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	Prel. indication for 1946	1946 as a percentage of	
						1935-39	1945
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Percent	Percent
Vegetables							
Fresh	235	236	255	270	247	105	91
Canned	31.1	33.7	33.2	42.6	5/	-	-
Frozen	4/ .4	.7	1.6	1.4	5/	-	-
Potatoes	130	133	128	130	5/	-	-
Sweetpotatoes	23.3	21.2	20.9	19.2	5/	-	-
Beans, dry edible	8.8	8.4	7.9	6.9	5/	-	-
Peas, dry field	.5	1.0	1.2	1.0	5/	-	-
Canned soups & baby foods	5.2	6.9	8.8	9.8	5/	-	-
Sugar (refined)	96.5	80.3	89.0	73.2	5/	-	-
Grains							
Corn products:							
Corn meal 6/	23.9	21.0	20.0	19.0	18	75	95
Corn sirup 6/	7.7	12.1	12.1	12.2	10	130	82
Corn starch	1.3	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.2	92	86
Corn sugar 6/	2.7	4.3	4.0	3.9	3.3	122	85
Breakfast food	1.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	141	96
Hominy	1.2	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	133	94
Oats							
Oatmeal	3.9	4.0	3.2	4.1	4.4	113	107
Barley							
Barley food products 7/	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	125	100
Wheat							
Flour 8/	153.1	161.3	161.0	161.4	157	103	97
Breakfast food	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	103	100
Rye							
Rye flour	2.2	3.3	2.8	2.6	2.3	105	88
Rice, milled	5.7	6.5	6.1	5.4	5.0	88	93
Beverages							
Coffee 9/	14.0	13.0	15.8	16.2	17	121	105
Tea	.67	.46	.53	.67	.70	104	104
Cocoa	4.4	2.9	3.6	3.5	3.8	86	109
Peanuts (shelled)	4.4	6.4	6.1	6.7	5/	-	-

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official Census estimates of total population adjusted for under-enumeration of children under 5 and for military personnel eating out of civilian supplies. 1/ Data for 1945 are preliminary; calendar year basis except for canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; potatoes and sweetpotatoes which are on the basis of a year beginning July; fresh citrus fruits, peanuts, dry edible beans, and dry field peas on a crop-year basis, rice on an August 1 year. All years beginning in the year designated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year and rice which begins in August of previous year. 2/ In terms of number of eggs, the apparent per capita consumption was 298 in 1935-39, 345 in 1943, 351 in 1944, 390 in 1945 and 365 indicated for 1946. 3/ Includes actual weight of butterfat content of other items. 4/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 5/ Not available until April. 6/ Revised. 7/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent. 8/ Includes white, whole wheat, and Semolina flour. 9/ Green bean basis.

Table 3.- Total food disappearance: Source and distribution, 1935-39 average and 1940 to 1945 1/

Year	Source of total food					Distribution by claimants						
								2/Department of Agriculture				
	Total food disappearance	Food production	Imports	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Civilian	Military including military civilian feeding	Net purchases	Shipments	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Commercial export and shipments 3/
	Percentage of food disappearance in each year											
1935-39	100.0	93.7	6.4		.1	97.4						2.6
1940	100.0	94.9	5.5		.4	97.8						2.2
1941	100.0	94.5	6.0		.5	93.7	2.1	2.5	2.3		.2	1.7
1942	100.0	94.1	3.8	2.1		86.3	6.5	6.2	5.2		1.0	1.0
1943	100.0	95.3	4.9		.2	78.9	11.7	8.1	7.1		1.0	1.3
1944	100.0	94.5	4.8	.7		80.3	12.7	5.8	6.5	.7		1.2
1945	100.0	94.3	5.2	.5		80.7	13.6	4.0	5.1	1.1		1.7
	Percentage of 1935 - 39 food disappearance											
1935-39	100.0	93.7	6.4		.1	97.4						2.6
1940	109.7	104.1	6.0		.4	107.2						2.5
1941	114.1	107.8	6.9		.6	106.9	2.4	2.8	2.6		.2	2.0
1942	124.6	117.2	4.7	2.7		107.4	8.1	7.8	6.5		1.3	1.3
1943	129.7	123.7	6.3		.3	102.3	15.2	10.5	9.3		1.2	1.7
1944	136.8	129.3	6.6	.9		109.9	17.4	7.9	8.8	.9		1.6
1945	134.1	126.5	6.9	.7		108.3	18.2	5.3	6.8	1.5		2.3

1/The upper section of the table divides the total disappearance in each year (1) according to the source of the food, and (2) according to its distribution. Both the total disappearance figure and the breakdown are on an index number basis; that is, they represent quantities weighted by average farm prices in the period 1935-39. The disappearance figure includes both domestically produced and imported foods. The lower portion of the table contains the same data expressed as a percentage of total food disappearance in 1935-39 instead of total disappearance in each year. 2/The quantities assigned to the Department of Agriculture are principally food for lend-lease. These quantities are measured in two ways: (1) in terms of Department of Agriculture purchases from commercial channels, and (2) in terms of shipments out of the country. When measured in terms of purchases, additions to Department of Agriculture stocks included. When measured in terms of shipments, additions to stocks are shown separately. Department of Agriculture shipments were smaller than the total quantities purchased from 1941 to 1943 and stocks were built up. In 1944 and 1945, however, shipments exceeded purchases and stocks were decreased. 3/The 1935-39, 1940-41 exports and shipments are strictly commercial. For the war years, they approximate the commercial portion as indicated by total exports and shipments less the exports assignable to the Department of Agriculture.

THE NUTRITION SITUATION [1]

Summary of 1945

The nutritive value of the per capita civilian food supply in 1945 was higher for each nutrient than the prewar 1935-39 average. For protein and the minerals and vitamins included in the analysis, the 1945 values were at least 14 percent higher than the 1935-39 average. Quantities of vitamin A and ascorbic acid (vitamin C) were about a fifth higher because of the increased consumption of vegetables and fruit. More iron, thiamine, riboflavin, and niacin were available because of the flour and bread enrichment program as well as the increased consumption of certain foods, chiefly meat, eggs, and milk. Without enrichment the 1945 value for these four nutrients would have been from 15 to 20 percent higher than in 1935-39; with enrichment of grain products they were in 1945 from 30 to 45 percent higher.

This contribution of the enrichment program to the nutritive value of the 1945 food supply is also pointed up by the fact that the values for iron and niacin were almost one-fifth higher than they would have been without enrichment, for thiamine, a fourth higher, and for riboflavin one-eighth higher.

Prospects for 1946

The nutritive value of the per capita food supply is expected for 1946 to be about the same as the 1945 value. This year the calorie value of the average civilian diet may be about 3,360 per person per day, somewhat below the 1944 peak. The continued shortage of sugar and fats will prevent the supplies of food energy from rising much above the 1945 level. Large civilian supplies of meat in 1946 will offset expected decreases in consumption of eggs and grain products so that protein, thiamine, and niacin values will be much the same as in 1945. Somewhat smaller consumption of fluid milk in 1946 may result in slightly lower calcium and riboflavin averages than in 1945. Vitamin A and ascorbic acid levels may be approximately the same as those of 1944, but somewhat lower than the peak levels of these two vitamins for 1945. However, fresh fruit and vegetable supplies might turn out to be larger in 1946 than now indicated on the basis of average yields in recent years.

The effect of the recently announced wheat conservation program is to enhance slightly the protein, iron, and B-vitamin, especially thiamine, content of the average diet. The extent of this improvement, however, will not be so great as might otherwise be expected since present-day enriched bread and flour are higher in the B-vitamins than the new 80 percent extraction bread and flour. The quality of the diets of those people who have been using unenriched flour should be improved considerably.

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[1] Prepared by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

The supplies of all the nutrients, shown in Table 4, available per person per day in the past 3 years as well as in 1946 exceed the per capita average Recommended Dietary Allowances of the National Research Council (as revised in 1945). However the NRC allowances are for food as ingested and do not include any allowance for food nutrients wasted or destroyed in food preparation in home or restaurant kitchens. The supplies indicated in Table 4 are calculated on the basis of quantities of food purchased at the retail level or produced in farm and city gardens. Furthermore, these supplies of nutrients are national averages based on average food consumption per capita. The disparities in food distribution, particularly between income groups, are glossed over in such averages.

Table 4.- Nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945, and forecast for 1946 with percentage comparisons. 1/

Nutrients	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945 Preliminary	1946 Forecast	1946 as percentage of - 1935-39	1945
Food energy ...	Calories	3,250	3,400	3,480	3,320	3,360	103	101
Protein	Grams	88	98	99	100	100	114	100
Fat	"	131	141	145	136	144	110	106
Carbohydrate ..	"	429	433	443	422	416	97	99
Calcium	"	.90	1.04	1.06	1.10	1.07	119	97
Iron	Milligrams	14	17	18	18	18	129	100
Vitamin A	Int'l units	8,000	9,100	9,300	9,900	9,400	118	95
Thiamine	Milligrams	1.5	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	147	100
Riboflavin	"	1.8	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.5	139	100
Niacin	"	15	19	21	21	22	147	105
Ascorbic Acid .	"	115	125	135	140	135	117	96

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on the basis of estimates of apparent civilian consumption (retail basis), including estimates of consumption in town and city gardens, supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

No deductions have been made in the nutrient estimates for the loss or waste of food in the home or for the destruction or loss of nutrients during the preparation of food.

The data for iron, thiamine, riboflavin and niacin include the amounts of these nutrients added to white bread and flour under the enrichment program.

MEATS

Summary of 1945

Civilian per capita consumption of meat in 1945 averaged around 132 pounds, dressed weight, the lowest since 1938. The supply of meat for civilian consumption was particularly short in the spring and early summer. It increased materially when military purchases were reduced after the end of the war and slaughter rose seasonally. Nearly all of the reduction in civilian meat consumption from the near record rate of 150 pounds per capita in 1944 was in the consumption of pork.

Meat production last year was the third largest on record-- 22.6 billion pounds, 2 billion below the 1944 all-time record. Beef production was about 1 billion pounds larger than in 1944. Production of lamb and mutton and veal was about the same as in 1944. Output of pork decreased 3 billion pounds from 1944 because the pig crops in 1944 and the spring of 1945 were smaller than the year before. Thirty percent fewer hogs were slaughtered than in the previous year, but slaughter weights were the heaviest on record.

Although final Government procurement figures are not yet available, it appears that the armed forces procured around 4.4 billion pounds of meat in 1945, for troop use and military civilian feeding, compared with 4 billion in the previous year. Military procurement in the first half of 1945 took about 38 percent of federally inspected slaughter -- one-fourth of the total quantity of meat produced. During the year 1945 the Department of Agriculture purchased about 900 million pounds of meat for export, excluding Army stocks which were sold to UNRRA. The Department of Agriculture's purchase program was greatly curtailed in the late spring and summer, but was stepped up after the end of the war. Even so, shipments by the Department of Agriculture in the fourth quarter were over 200 million pounds less than the allocations for export principally to the liberated areas of Europe. This deficiency is scheduled to be made up in the first quarter of 1946 although the current rate of procurement is materially below the level that would be required for this.

Prospects for 1946

Civilian supplies of meat for this year are indicated at about 150 pounds per capita. Civilians will get more beef and pork than last year, but moderately less lamb, mutton and veal. An increase in civilian supplies is indicated on the basis of an expected half-billion-pound increase in production as compared with 1945, together with the reduction in military procurement. Tentative forecasts of 1946 meat production include 11.5 billion pounds of beef and veal, 870 million pounds lamb and mutton, and 11 billion pounds of pork. Military requirements probably will not exceed one-third of the takings in 1945, and will be in the neighborhood of 1 billion pounds.

If current difficulties in the procurement of meat are overcome--arising in part from high, unrationed civilian demand, exports will be about the same as the 1 1/2 billion pounds of meat shipped last year, including 300 to 400 million pounds of army stocks which were used for civilian feeding in Europe.

It is desirable that much of this quantity be shipped in the early part of 1946, because the needs of liberated areas are particularly urgent at this time. European requirements probably will continue high throughout this year, at least, because of the long time required to rebuild European livestock numbers.

Hog slaughter in the next few months will be somewhat larger than in the corresponding period of 1945. This spring and summer it will also be greater than a year earlier, as last year's fall pig crop was 12 percent larger than that in the fall of 1944. If the spring pig crop raised is as large as now indicated, pork output will rise more than seasonally next winter. However, the average weights of hogs slaughtered probably will be less than in 1945.

Heavy slaughter of cattle is indicated for the first half of 1946. On January 1, a large number of cattle were being grain fed for market, but the total was 4 percent less than a year earlier. Supplies of the better grades of beef will increase seasonally to midyear.

Civilian meat supplies probably will not meet full demand at present prices during the next few months despite the high level of output. Military requirements in the first half of 1946 will be much higher than in the latter half, because of the progressive demobilization. Government procurement of meat for export to Europe will also be large.

Although civilian meat supplies will be larger than in 1945 and noncivilian demand will be smaller, meat prices in 1946 are not likely to decline from current levels. If consumer purchasing power continues high during 1946, meat supplies for civilian consumption are not likely to be equal to full demand at current prices at least until the latter part of the year. Meat from lower grade animals may sell considerably below present ceilings. If price ceilings are raised or withdrawn after June 30, the prices of some cuts and grades of meats probably would advance. Retail meat prices now average about one-third a above 1935-39 average. In the May-August 1945 period they reached their highest level since mid-1943, when the "roll-back" subsidy was instituted. Meat prices have declined only slightly since August 1945. Termination of the "roll-back" subsidies to livestock slaughterers and production payments to farmers on cattle and sheep would be equivalent to an average increase of about 4 cents per pound at retail for all meat and lard. This would amount 12 or 13 percent of present retail prices, on the average.

FISH

Summary of 1945

Civilian per capita consumption of fresh and frozen fish in 1945 was larger than in any other war year. The 1945 rate of slightly over 6 pounds, dressed weight basis, was about 10 percent more than consumption in 1944 and slightly above the 1935-39 average. The total catch of fish in 1945 increased as the result of an increase in the number of boats, improvements in the efficiency of boats and equipment, and the lifting of restrictions on fishing areas. Record large quantities of fish were frozen in 1945, and record stocks were in cold storage by the end of the year.

Canned fish supplies for civilian consumption were tight throughout 1945 because Government procurement was large and production was below average. The canned fish pack in 1945 is estimated at 616 million pounds. Domestic consumers have benefited from the sharp cutback in military procurement since the end of the war, but the export program for liberated areas has also been stepped up. Civilian consumption of canned fish in 1945 averaged about 3 pounds per capita, compared with 5 pounds per person before the war. Takings by the armed forces in 1945 amounted to about 65 million pounds and exports totaled around 220 million pounds.

Prospects for 1946

Supplies of fresh and frozen fish will be sufficient to meet full consumer demand at present prices. Canned fish will continue short in many areas but may ease somewhat after the new pack is marketed late next summer and fall.

Consumption of fresh and frozen fish in 1946 is likely to exceed that of 1945. Cold storage stocks of fish on January 1, 1946 totaled 136 million pounds, a new high record for that date. The upward trend in marketing of packaged fish, particularly frozen fillets, is likely to continue as distribution is improved. The record imports of over 40 million pounds of frozen filleted fish in 1945 will be exceeded this year. Domestic production of frozen fish is also expected to increase from last year.

Civilian consumption of canned fish will be larger in 1946 than during the last 2 or 3 years of the war, but supplies will still fall short of full consumer demand at present ceiling prices. Military procurement from the 1945-46 pack has been virtually completed and only relatively small quantities are likely to be taken out of the 1946-47 pack. However, imports will be much below their pre-war level and export demand will continue large.

POULTRY AND EGGS

Summary of 1945

Until the end of the war, civilian supplies of poultry and eggs in 1945 were short of consumer demand in many areas because of large non-civilian takings. Since the end of the war, the seasonal low in egg production has contributed to continuation of tight supplies of eggs, but turkey and chicken meat have been plentiful.

Egg consumption by civilians in 1945 reached a record of 390 eggs per capita, 39 eggs more than the previous record of 351 in 1944. Egg production in 1945 was a near-record of 5062 million dozen. Of this quantity, net military procurement appears to have totaled about 500 million dozen. Also, about 35 million pounds of dried whole eggs (105 million dozen shell egg equivalent) were purchased for export. Chicken meat for civilian consumption was very short in many areas. until August 27, when set-asides for government procurement were terminated. This was particularly true in areas dependent on commercial broiler production. It now appears that the armed forces took about 10 percent of the 1945 production of chicken meat. Civilian consumption increased greatly in the latter part of the year and averaged 24.6 pounds for the year as a whole. Turkey consumption by civilians was also at a high level, although procurement by the armed forces amounted to 55 million pounds out of the record production of 680 million pounds. During 1935-39 an average of 17.9 pounds of chicken and 2.6 pounds of turkey were consumed per person.

Prospects for 1946

Civilian supplies of poultry products are expected to remain at high wartime levels during 1946. Per capita consumption of eggs in the three years 1943-45 inclusive averaged 360 eggs, consumption of chicken averaged 25 pounds and consumption of turkey 4 pounds.

Although civilian supplies of eggs in 1946 would permit consumption of over 400 eggs per person, slightly above the record rate for 1945, demand for eggs at support prices will be somewhat below the rate of consumption in 1945. This prospective decrease in civilian demand for eggs is indicated by the increase in meat supplies and by the possibility of decline from 1945 in consumer purchasing power. Supplies of eggs are expected to be particularly abundant during the next few months, which include the flush production season. Next fall and winter when production is seasonally smaller, supplies of eggs may be short of the demand. Egg production for 1946 is forecast at 4,900 million dozen, or nearly 3 percent less than in 1945. The 1946 egg price support program was announced by the Department of Agriculture on December 27. Purchases of dried whole, frozen and graded shell eggs are to be made so that prices received by farmers may average 27 cents per dozen in Midwest and 29 cents per dozen for the country as a whole during the flush production season. This support level is expected to assure the 90 percent of parity required by law. If financial arrangements can be made, the Department of Agriculture will export the eggs purchased under the price support program during the next few months. However, dried eggs are expensive for relief feeding.

Less chicken meat will be produced in 1946 than in 1945, but reduced military takings and record commercial holdings of chicken meat at the beginning of the year will provide civilian supplies about as large as the 24.6 pounds per capita consumed in 1945. Civilian supplies of turkeys are also likely to continue at the present high level for the year as a whole. Production probably will be maintained because of the attractive prices. January 1 stocks were almost double prewar holdings. Furthermore, military procurement will be much below that of 1945.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Summary of 1945

During 1945, civilian supplies of dairy products, on a whole milk equivalent basis, about equalled the prewar average of 800 pounds per person, despite noncivilian takings of about one-sixth of the total supply. The high level of civilian supplies was made possible by the record production of 123 billion pounds of milk last year, 4 percent above that of 1944 and almost 20 percent above the prewar average. However, because of the high level of consumer purchasing power, the gap between demand and supply of dairy products was still great.

The dairy situation in the first 8 months of 1945 reflected the impact of Government programs. Record unit returns, including Government incentive payments, resulted in a record large production of milk. Also, output of manufactured dairy products most desirable for wartime purposes (Cheddar cheese, evaporated and dried whole milk) was at or near record levels. Rationing and Government orders appeared to distribute the supplies more effectively than at any time during the war.

After the end of hostilities and the lifting of all wartime restrictions on production and consumption of dairy products, wide shifts in the utilization of milk occurred. Some of the milk which would have gone into butter production under wartime restrictions on marketings, was diverted into fluid milk and cream consumption and ice cream production, the best-paying uses for milk. Production of Cheddar cheese and evaporated milk and dried whole milk was also affected, but less than butter production. Fluid milk and cream consumption per capita reached a new record at a time when the milk supply was seasonally low. Unequal distribution of butter supplies became pronounced.

Fluid milk and cream consumption in 1945 was more than 440 pounds per capita, about 25 percent above prewar. Supplies of whole milk products were at or near record levels. Ice cream consumption was very large despite sugar shortages and restrictions that were in effect the first 8 months of the year. Continued shortage of supplies brought consumption of butter to the lowest point in the 50 odd years for which records have been kept.

Prospects for 1946

Civilian supplies of dairy products, with the notable exception of butter, are likely to approach civilian demand more closely in 1946, assuming present prices among dairy products. However, if price ceilings on butter were to be raised considerably or removed without any change in prices for other dairy products, the supply of manufactured whole milk products would be particularly short of demand. On a whole milk equivalent basis, civilian supplies in 1946 may average slightly higher than the 800 pounds per person in 1935-39.

Milk production in 1946 is expected to be 2 to 4 percent less than last year. However, the expected reduction of two-thirds in the quantity of non-civilian takings will leave somewhat more milk available per civilian than 1945, but moderately less than 1942, the record year. At the same time, the quantities of some individual dairy products consumed will vary from those of recent years. Consumption of fluid milk may be somewhat smaller than in 1945, but fluid cream supplies probably will be substantially greater. Civilian consumption of cheese may be close to the 1942 record of 6 pounds per person. Evaporated milk consumption probably will remain at a high level. Ice cream production will be limited by the supply of sugar, and average consumption per capita may be much the same as in 1945. On the other hand, butter consumption per capita probably will be slightly larger than in 1945, the lowest year for consumption on record. Although creamery butter production in 1946 is not likely to be as large as in 1945 unless the dairy price structure is altered, military procurement will be substantially smaller.

Prospective civilian consumption of skim milk products will probably be at least as large as the record of 1945. This will be particularly true of cottage cheese, chocolate drinks, and buttermilk.

FATS AND OILS

Summary of 1945

Civilian supplies of food fats and oils in 1945 were at the lowest point in 20 years. They amounted to about 42 pounds per capita, compared with 45 pounds in 1944 and the 1935-39 average of 48 pounds (including actual weight of butter and fat content of other products). The reduction in civilian supplies last year was due mainly to declines in production of lard and butter and to the large military and export requirements. The reductions in civilian use from the level of 1944 were in lard (16 percent) and butter (12 percent). Supplies of margarine, shortening, and other edible oils were moderately larger than in 1944.

Total domestic production of butter, lard, and other edible fat-and-oil products in 1945 is estimated at 6.7 billion pounds, about 10 percent smaller than in 1944, although above the 1935-39 average. The decline occurred mainly in lard output. Imports were about the same as in 1944 but amounted to only about one-third of prewar quantities. Substantial quantities of fats, mostly lard, were in storage at the beginning of 1945, but by the end of the year were much smaller than before the war. The armed forces procured over 700 million pounds (including about 70 million pounds of lard for civilian feeding in Europe), slightly more than in 1944. Military purchases were sharply reduced at the end of the war. Government procurement of fats and oils for export totaled about 400 million pounds and another 250-300 million pounds were shipped out of stocks held at the beginning of the year. Total exports of food fats from the United States in 1945 amounted to only about three-fourths of the quantity shipped in each of the previous two years, but totaled much more than in the years before 1943.

Prospects for 1946

Throughout 1946, civilian supplies of fats and oils are expected to be short of demand at present prices, and distribution problems will arise. However, gradual improvement from this winter's low level of civilian supplies is expected, and per capita supplies for the year as a whole may average slightly larger than in 1945. Lard production is expected to recover somewhat from the low levels of 1945. A large reduction in military procurement of food fats is expected, as well as some decline in exports.

Butter supplies for civilians are now very low and regional distribution of supplies is uneven, with butter production at the lowest point in many years. Butter supplies will increase somewhat as production rises seasonally in the next few months. The retail price of butter under ceilings now averages about 55 cents. If butter ceilings were removed entirely, prices would probably rise 15 to 20 cents per pound, although they might decline somewhat from the high level by midsummer, when production increases seasonally. Butter supplies are not likely to be much above 11 pounds per person for this year, unless substantial changes in the dairy price structure are made, and fluid milk and cream consumption is reduced.

Civilian lard supplies will be somewhat larger than last year. Total lard production for all uses in 1946 is estimated at 2,450 million pounds, 350 million pounds above 1945 output. However, this prospective production is substantially less than the output in either 1943 or 1944, when more than 3 billion pounds were produced. Although stocks of lard on hand at the beginning of 1946 were substantially smaller than a year earlier, production and stocks together probably will total about the same this year as last. European requirements for fats are very large, because of the serious wartime deficiencies. Present plans call for export of about as much lard as in 1945, when nearly 650 million pounds were shipped, including about 50 million pounds from military stocks.

The use of lard in soap manufacture probably will be substantially less than last year. In 1945, soapmakers used about 80 million pounds of lard carried over from the preceding year. This heavy use has practically exhausted the supply of lard available for soap, as purchase of lard for use in soap has been prohibited since the fall of 1944. Military requirements for lard will be substantially smaller this year than last. Civilian supplies in 1946 may average as much as 13 pounds per capita compared with 12 pounds in 1945.

Under present quotas for the use of fats and oils in margarine, shortening and other edible products, per capita supplies of shortening and oils will be about the same this year as last, but less margarine will be produced for civilians in the first half of the year than in that period of 1945. Margarine supplies are now short, along with butter, and distribution problems are arising in many areas. On a per capita basis, the total civilian supply of margarine, shortening and other edible fats will be slightly smaller than in 1945 because of the return of men and women from the armed forces into civilian life. The world fats and oils situation is so tight that imports of edible fats into the United States in 1946 will continue small.

FRUIT

Summary of 1945

Civilian consumption of fresh fruit in 1945 was about as large as in 1944, when 145 pounds per capita were consumed. Consumption in the pre-war years 1935-39 averaged 139 pounds per capita. Citrus consumption per capita in 1945 was nearly as large as in 1944, and comprised about 45 percent of all fresh fruit consumed. Apple consumption fell off about one-sixth from the 1944 level, because of the very short crop in 1945, but larger quantities of other fresh fruits were consumed than in 1944. The crops of peaches, pears, and grapes were larger in 1945 than the year before, more grapes were consumed fresh, and imports of bananas and pineapples were larger.

Last year, supplies of canned fruits for civilian consumption were particularly short until fall. The 1944-45 pack was the third largest on record, but the armed forces took more than half of the year's supply. Civilian supplies were rationed until after V-J day. Packers' and distributors' stocks at the end of the 1944-45 pack year were larger than at the beginning, but a larger proportion was held for Government purchase than a year earlier. Civilian supplies of canned fruit increased substantially in the latter part of 1945 as a result of the sharp cutback in military requirements from the new pack.

Civilian consumption of canned juices in 1945 was about one pound smaller, per capita, than the 1944 record of 10 pounds, but was more than twice the average 1935-39 consumption. Supplies for civilian consumption in the first half of the year were materially reduced by heavy military takings. Civilian supplies of most fruit juices were rationed from the middle of January until August 5. In the second half of 1945 supplies of most fruit juices were sufficient to meet demand at ceiling prices, and stocks at the end of the year were larger than had been generally expected.

Partly because the pack of dried fruits in 1945 was smaller than in 1944 and partly because beginning stocks were smaller, total supplies of dried fruits for the 1945-46 season are about one-fifth smaller than for the preceding season. Civilian supplies of dried fruits are indicated to be somewhat smaller than the 6.4 pounds consumed per capita in the 1944-45 season, this reduction resulting mainly from the decrease in raisin supplies. Civilian consumption of frozen fruits during 1945 is estimated to have been slightly below the 2 pounds per capita consumed in 1944.

Prospects for 1946

Civilian supplies of fresh and processed fruits for 1946 as a whole will be slightly larger than in 1945, if the deciduous fruit crops are of about average size. Supplies of citrus fruits probably will be as large as last year. Also, imports of products such as bananas, pineapples, canned pineapple juice, coconuts and certain tree nuts will be larger than last year. As military requirements for processed fruits will be much smaller than last year, a larger proportion of the total supplies will be available to civilians this year, particularly of canned fruit.

In the first half of 1946, civilian supplies of fresh fruits will be made up mostly of citrus fruits. The 1945-46 citrus crop is about 6 percent larger than the previous crop. Cold storage stocks of apples on January 1, 1946 were only about half as large as the year before, but pear stocks were slightly larger. Small quantities of strawberries will be available during the winter, but supplies probably will be more plentiful in the spring than at that season last year.

Although the 1945-46 pack of commercially canned fruit was about one-tenth smaller than the preceding pack, civilian supplies per capita are indicated to be about two-thirds larger this season than last and nearly as large as the 15-pound average for the 1935-39 period. The large increase in civilian supplies results from drastic reductions in military requirements from the previous year's takings. Canned peaches and apricots probably will be plentiful. Prewar quantities of pears and fruit cocktail are indicated, but canned pineapple will continue considerably short of demand at present prices.

VEGETABLES

Summary of 1945

Both production and civilian per capita consumption of vegetables set new high records in 1945. Fresh vegetable consumption reached 270 pounds per person, compared with 255 pounds in 1944 and the pre-war average of 235 pounds. The average yield per acre of commercial truck crops on an aggregate tonnage basis was 4 or 5 percent higher in 1945 than in 1944. Per capita consumption of tomatoes, cabbage, and carrots was particularly high.

Supplies of canned vegetables from the 1944-45 pack were short last spring and the principal items were rationed. As the 1945 pack was of record size and military requirements were greatly reduced after the end of the war, supplies for civilian consumption became plentiful in the latter part of the year and all canned vegetables were taken off rationing. Civilian consumption of canned vegetables during the 1945-46 pack year probably will average about 43 pounds per capita, whereas previous record consumption--in the 1941 and 1942 pack years--was about 39 pounds. The pre-war level of consumption (1935-39) was only 31 pounds per capita.

Supplies of potatoes for civilian consumption varied greatly during 1945. The short crop in 1944 and transportation difficulties in the early part of 1945, contributed to a tight market supply situation. However, the 1945 crop was unusually large and military requirements have been sharply reduced, with the result that potatoes are now abundant. However, internal transport difficulties are hindering distribution. Exports of potatoes during the 1945-46 crop year may amount to about 20 million bushels. Even so, the supply of potatoes for domestic civilian consumption out of the 1945-46 crop probably will average 130 pounds per capita. This amount is about equal to the pre-war rate and slightly above the average rate of consumption during the 1944-45 crop year. The sweetpotato crop in 1944 was somewhat above average, but heavy military takings held the civilian per capita consumption of sweetpotatoes during the 1944-45 crop year below the pre-war average of 23 pounds. The 1945 crop of sweetpotatoes was only about average. Non-civilian takings of sweetpotatoes during this crop year will be substantially smaller than last, so civilian supplies in 1946 may amount to around 20 pounds per capita.

Large stocks of dry edible beans were on hand at the beginning of the 1944-45 crop year, with most of them held for the Government. Very large quantities were used for relief feeding in Europe last spring and summer. Consumption of dry edible beans per capita in the U.S. during the 1944-45 crop year apparently did not exceed 8 pounds—the smallest rate since 1936-37. Stocks in September 1945, the beginning of the new crop year, were quite low and the production in 1945 was 18 percent smaller than in 1944. Although exports are much smaller than last year, civilian supplies will be short this year. Civilian consumption of dry edible beans during 1945-46 may not exceed 7 pounds per capita.

Consumption of dry field peas was relatively high during 1945. Apparent civilian consumption during the 1944-45 crop year was slightly more than 1 pound per capita whereas consumption during the present crop year is likely to be a little less than 1 pound per capita. Pre-war consumption amounted to about half a pound per person. The 1944 crop of dry field peas was 3-1/2 times as large as the 1935-39 average. Large government stocks of dry field peas held at the beginning of the 1944 crop year were used in considerable part for relief feeding. The 1945 crop was about 37 percent smaller than in the previous year, but still sufficiently large to provide substantial quantities of dried field peas for export.

Prospects for 1946

Supplies of vegetables are expected to continue large during 1946. Returns to farmers have been high and consumer demand for vegetables is expected to fall off only moderately. With average yields, fresh vegetable production this year probably will continue to be larger than before the war. However, civilian per capita consumption of fresh vegetables in 1946 may show some decrease from 1945 as the number of people eating out of civilian supplies increases.

Supplies of commercially canned vegetables will also be large in 1946 as a result of the record pack of 1945 and the expectation of another large pack this year. Preliminary 1946 national goals for commerical truck crops for processing recommend an aggregate planted acreage and production only 4 percent smaller than planted acreage and production attained in 1945.

The large carry-over of potatoes on January 1 assures good supplies for civilian consumption until the new crop comes in although transportation problems are at present interferring with normal distribution. If growing weather is favorable in 1946, another bumper crop of potatoes can be expected. Prices during the past few years have been higher than usual and in 1946 they will be supported at 90 percent of parity, under the Steagall Amendment. Sweetpotato supplies will not be plentiful because the 1945 crop was smaller than average. Civilian supplies of dry edible beans probably will be short at least until next fall. Some problems in distribution are expected. The short supplies result from the considerably below average crop in 1945. Civilian supplies of dry field peas will be relatively plentiful compared with prewar, and large quantities will be exported.

FOOD GRAINS

Summary of 1945

Civilian consumption of cereal products was at a high level in 1945. Supplies of most cereal products were plentiful, prices were relatively low, and supplies of other foods were short in relation to demand--particularly until the end of the war.

Consumption of wheat as food by civilians amounted to more than 500 million bushels. Exports of wheat and flour, including military civilian feeding, totaled about 290 million bushels--the largest since 1921. About 275 million bushels of wheat were used for feed, which was more than double the amount fed during the 10-year period 1932-41, although sharply less than in 1943 or 1944. Despite the large disappearance of wheat in 1945 for civilian food, exports, and feed use, about 689 million bushels were on hand at the end of the year, the supply being buttressed by last year's record wheat crop and the 835 million bushel stocks on January 1, 1945.

Although supplies of rye last year were so short that restrictions were imposed upon the use of rye for feeding and for production of alcohol and spirits, supplies for food use were adequate. The 1944 crop was very small and stocks were materially reduced during the year. Civilian use of rye for food during 1945 is estimated at 8.7 million bushels. About 7 million bushels were exported.

Large supplies of rice were available last year from the record crop of 1944. However, the heavy demand for rice for relief feeding in the Pacific areas, plus commercial exports and shipments to the territories, kept civilian rice consumption slightly below the 1935-39 average of 5.7 pounds per capita.

Civilian supplies of cereal food products manufactured from feed grains (corn, oats, barley) were at a fairly high level in 1945. Supplies of grain for processing were more freely available than in the previous year, as a result of large crops in 1944 and of reductions in numbers of livestock.

Prospects for 1946

Consumption of cereal products probably will decline slightly during 1946, although it will remain at a relatively high level. Wheat supplies are sufficient to fill domestic food needs with the recent changes in extraction rate. The export goal for wheat and wheat flour in the first 6 months of 1946 is 225 million bushels. The action recently requested by the President will make it possible to come closer to this goal than would otherwise be the case.

Problems of procurement and transportation are important factors limiting the quantities of wheat and flour to be shipped before the 1946 crop is harvested as well as the total amount of wheat on hand in the country. Relatively large supplies of wheat are still on farms and at country shipping points. The export demand for U. S. wheat is likely to continue at a high level, even after next year's harvest in Europe. Use of wheat for alcohol will be sharply reduced this year as will wheat usage for feed.

Rye consumption per capita will be smaller this year than last reflecting smaller demand. Although the 1945 rye crop of 26.4 million bushels was slightly larger than the year before, it was much below the prewar average. Stocks were greatly reduced during 1945 so the use of rye for feed, alcohol and exports will be curtailed in 1946.

Rice supplies for U. S. civilian consumption probably will be below prewar levels because of the heavy buying of rice for export. The need for rice in the Far East is so great that the entire U. S. supply of rice would not satisfy even a fraction of it. Until the 1946 harvest, therefore, the domestic supply of rice will continue at a low level. The set-aside for Government procurement has recently been revised upward. Strong export demand for rice is expected to continue into the 1946-47 marketing year. Rice goals were announced on January 16 and called for only a slight reduction in acreage from that actually seeded in 1945. Achievement of the acreage goal, assuming average growing weather, should provide supplies large enought to satisfy U. S. consumer requirements in full during the 1946-47 marketing year as well as substantial export demands.

Civilian per capita consumption of corn food products will be considerably smaller in 1946 than in 1945, as processors are unable to obtain ample supplies of grain. Although the total supply of corn is relatively large, demand by all types of users is exceptionally strong. Consumption of oatmeal is expected to be larger than in 1945 and little change is expected in that of barley food products.

SUGAR

Summary of 1945

Civilian consumption of sugar in 1945 averaged only 73 pounds per capita, the smallest in 4 decades. Supplies for civilians declined sharply in the latter part of the year. Stocks had been greatly reduced by the end of 1944, and the new supplies from offshore areas were not sufficient to maintain the rate of distribution in the first half of the year. Offshore receipts were practically equal to the average receipts of 4,857 thousand short tons (raw value) in the prewar years 1935-39, but domestic production was 18 percent smaller. The armed forces took about 2100 thousand short tons for troop use and civilian feeding, and about 150 thousand tons were exported, mostly to liberated areas. Emergency requirements for sugar in liberated areas necessitated these shipments from U.S. supplies, in addition to withdrawals from the common sources of supply.

Prospects for 1946

Some improvement in civilian sugar supplies is expected after the next two or three months, although just how much is not known at this time. Arrangements for the purchase of the Cuban crop have not been completed and the allocation of the short world supply has not yet been determined. The slight improvement over last year's low 73 pound per capita rate will result largely from the decrease in military needs. European requirements for imported sugar are very large. Sugar production in Europe as a whole for 1945-46 is indicated at only 5.8 million short tons, compared with 7 million tons in 1944-45 and 10.2 million tons, the prewar average. Aftermath of war, drought, and lack of fertilizer, fuel and transportation facilities have contributed to this substantial reduction. Sugar production in the continental United States in 1945-46 was about 23 percent larger than in 1944-45, although 5 percent below the 1934-43 average. Much of this sugar will be marketed in 1946. The domestic crop of sugar probably will increase further in 1946-47, partly because of the higher price support payments. Cuban production this year will be somewhat larger than in 1945, but European needs for sugar are likely to prevent substantial change in the U. S. share of the supply. The world sugar supply situation probably will continue relatively tight for several years. Recovery of sugar production in the Philippines and Java will be slow. There is at present no further information concerning sugar stocks which were reported in Java after VJ-Day.

BEVERAGES

Total imports of coffee for the year 1946 may be about as large as in 1945. If so, reduced military takings and smaller exports may result in increased civilian per capita consumption to 17 pounds.

Civilian per capita consumption of tea may also increase slightly in 1946, compared with the 1945 rate of about 2/3 of a pound. Some additional varieties of tea probably will be available as the import situation improves.

Consumption of cocoa and chocolate will continue to be limited in 1946 by the scarcity of sugar. Per capita consumption of civilians is expected to be somewhat greater than the 3.5 pound rate estimated for 1945.

Table 5.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary indications for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	Preliminary indication for 1946	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
							Percent	Percent
Meats (dressed weight)	Mil. lb							
Beef	"	6,936	8,523	9,137	9,920	9,900	143	100
Veal	"	1,038	1,160	1,595	1,590	1,550	149	97
Lamb and mutton	"	871	1,104	1,023	1,050	870	100	83
Pork (excluding lard)	"	7,337	13,349	12,893	10,040	11,000	150	110
Total meats	"	16,182	24,136	24,648	22,600	23,320	144	103
Poultry and Eggs								
Eggs	Mil. doz	3,335	4,972	5,305	5,062	4,900	147	97
Chicken (dressed weight)	Mil. lb	2,325	3,804	3,460	3,550	3,350	144	94
Turkey (dressed weight)	"	350	466	547	680	625	179	92
Dairy Products								
Total milk 2/	"	103,656	117,687	118,504	122,785	118,500	114	97
Cheese 3/	"	669	993	1,016	1,115	1,030	154	92
Cond. and evap. milk	"	2,225	3,343	3,750	4,114	3,400	153	83
Fluid milk and cream 4/	"	44,146	53,921	56,144	59,508	60,600	137	102
Fats and Oils 5/								
Butter, farm & factory	"	2,170	2,015	1,818	1,685	1,550-1,600	74	95
Lard 6/	"	1,624	2,884	2,951	2,050	2,395	147	117
Margarine (fat content)	"	303	500	479	517	385	127	74
Shortening	"	1,529	1,438	1,364	1,469	2,342	111	96
Other edible fats and oils 7/	"	575	1,272	1,123	971			
Total fats and oils	"	6,201	8,109	7,735	6,692	6,672-6,722	108	100
Fruits								
Fresh:								
Citrus	"	6,870	8,838	10,069	9,974	10,500	153	105
Apples (commercial	"	4,384	3,107	4,181	2,421	9,100	99	99
Other (excluding melons	"	4,847	3,568	5,053	5,493			
Processed:								
Canned fruit	"	1,702	1,587	2,087	1,870	8/	-	-
Canned fruit juices	"	1,321	1,390	1,606	1,713	8/	-	-
Frozen	"	106	214	314	385	8/	-	-
Dried	"	1,111	1,339	1,139	1,010	8/	-	-

-- Continued

Table 5.-Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary indications for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/ Continued -

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	Preliminary indication for 1946	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
Vegetables								
Fresh 9/	Mil. lb.	30,498	31,672	34,402	36,177	35,000	115	97
Canned 10/	"	4,084	6,236	6,373	6,636	8/	-	-
Frozen	"	11/ 78	223	238	272	8/	-	-
Potatoes	Mil.bu.	359	460	395	419	8/	-	-
Sweetpotatoes	"	68	73	71	67	8/	-	-
Dry edible beans 12/	Mil.lb.	1,361	1,935	1,497	1,231	8/	-	-
Dry field peas 12/	"	230	1,000	803	507	8/	-	-
Canned soups	"	684	675	890	890	8/	-	-
Canned baby foods	"	48	234	306	390	8/	-	-
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 short tons	1,948	1,531	1,512	1,600	8/	-	-
Grains								
Wheat	Mil.bu.	759	841	1,072	1,123	1,000	132	89
Rye	"	44.9	30.5	25.5	26.4	8/	-	-
Rice	"	49.8	64.8	68.2	70.2	8/	-	-
Corn	"	2,316	3,034	3,203	3,018	8/	-	-
Oats	"	1,045	1,138	1,155	1,548	8/	-	-
Barley	"	239	324	279	264	8/	-	-
Peanuts	Mil.lb.	1,229	2,185	2,111	2,080	8/	-	-

1/ Calendar year basis except for fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins i the fall of the previous year: canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a packyear basis; potatoes and sweetpotatoes, on the basis of a yea beginning July 1. 2/ The production of total milk for human consumption differs from total farm production of milk in that the former excludes milk fed to calves but includes off-farm production while the latter excludes off-farm production but includes milk fed to calves. Milk fed to calves and milk produced off farms are usually of approximately equal volume. 3/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese. 4/ Fluid milk equivalent for fresh use. 5/ Fat content basis except for butter which is on an actual weight basis. 6/ Excluding amount used in manufactured products. 7/ Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products and other minor uses such as fish canning. 8/ Not available until April. 9/ Estimates of all vegetables and melons other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production. 10/ Includes asparagus, beans (lima) beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk), peas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, tomatoes, tomato pulp, and tomato juice, tomato sauce, paste, and catsup, and chili sauce, mixed vegetables. 11/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 12/ Cleaned basis.

Table 6.-Retail food prices and total consumer price index, United States, by months 1943-45

(Index numbers 1935-39 = 100)

Year and month	Meats	Eggs	Dairy products	Fats and oils	Cereals and bakery products	Fruit and vegetables			Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Consumer price index
						Fresh	Canned	Dried				
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
Jan.	135	166	134	126	106	147	129	154	127	124	133	121
Feb.	136	144	136	126	106	153	131	156	127	125	134	121
Mar.	137	142	137	126	107	173	132	157	128	125	137	123
Apr.	138	141	137	127	108	191	132	158	128	125	141	124
May	138	142	137	126	108	206	131	158	128	124	143	125
June	138	146	134	126	108	202	130	158	126	124	142	125
July	131	154	133	126	108	193	130	159	126	124	139	124
Aug.	130	167	133	126	108	179	130	160	127	125	137	123
Sept.	130	178	134	126	108	176	130	160	127	125	137	124
Oct.	131	190	134	126	108	175	130	162	127	125	138	124
Nov.	130	191	134	125	108	170	130	162	127	125	137	124
Dec.	131	181	134	124	108	172	130	162	127	125	137	124
1944	130	153	134	123	108	168	130	166	126	124	136	126
Jan.	131	154	134	124	108	175	130	163	127	124	136	124
Feb.	130	143	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
Mar.	131	135	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
Apr.	130	128	134	124	108	178	130	163	127	124	135	125
May	130	127	134	123	108	183	129	164	126	124	136	125
June	130	129	134	123	108	185	129	164	126	124	136	125
July	129	149	134	123	109	188	129	165	127	124	137	126
Aug.	129	159	134	123	108	187	129	165	126	124	138	126
Sept.	129	158	134	123	109	179	129	165	126	124	137	126
Oct.	129	179	134	123	109	170	130	166	126	124	136	126
Nov.	130	187	134	123	109	168	130	166	126	124	136	126
Dec.	130	188	134	123	109	164	130	166	126	124	137	127
1945												
Jan.	130	170	134	123	109	178	130	167	126	124	137	127
Feb.	131	153	134	124	109	178	130	167	126	124	136	127
Mar.	131	141	134	124	109	179	130	167	126	124	136	127
Apr.	131	140	134	124	109	183	130	168	126	125	137	127
May	132	141	134	124	109	195	130	169	127	125	139	128
June	132	145	133	124	109	208	130	169	126	125	141	129
July	132	157	133	124	109	207	130	169	126	125	142	129
Aug.	132	171	133	124	109	196	130	169	127	125	141	129
Sept.	132	184	133	124	109	182	130	169	126	125	139	129
Oct.	131	186	133	124	109	182	130	169	126	125	139	129
Nov.	131	192	136	124	109	182	131	168	126	125	140	129

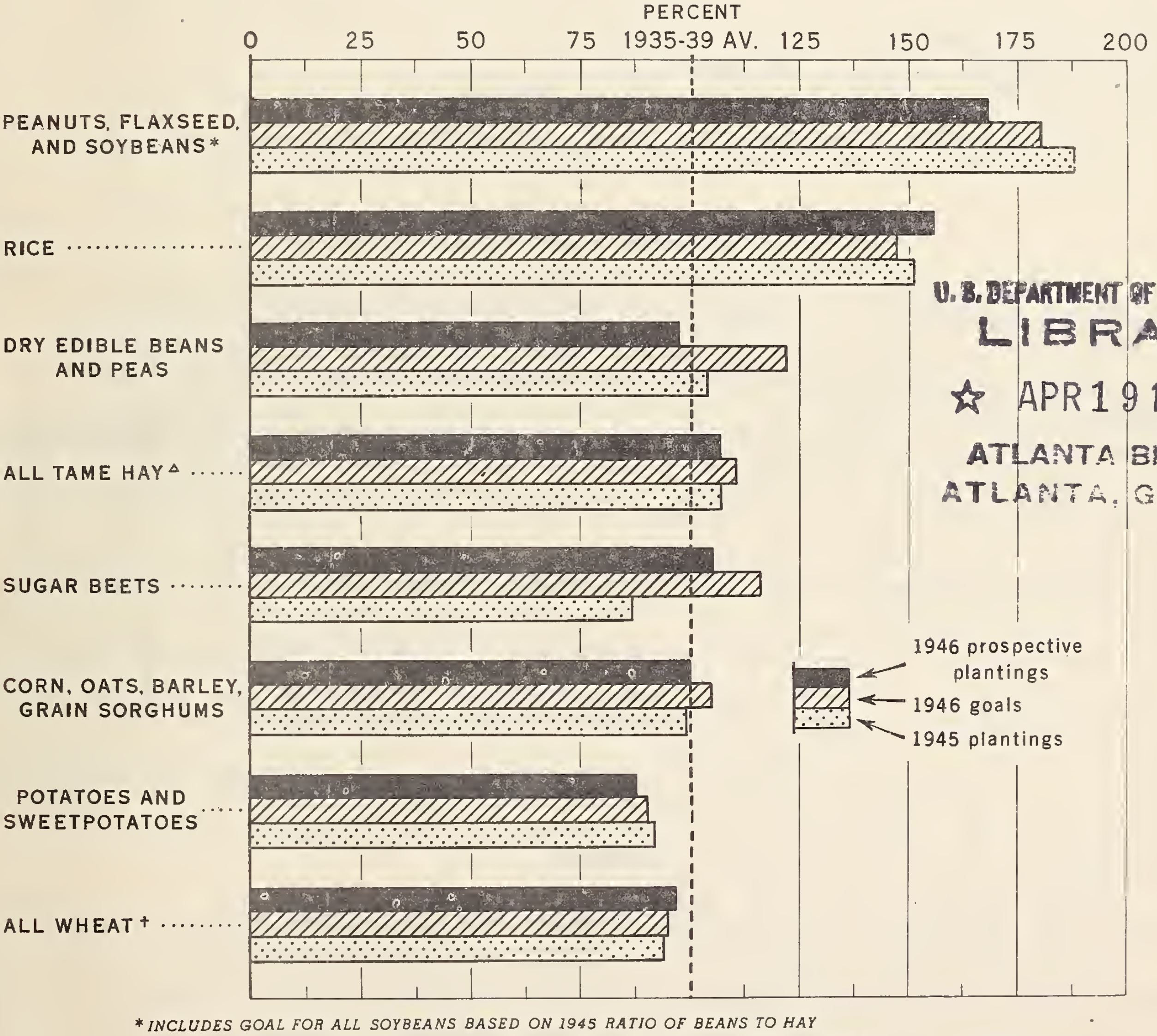
Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS - 32 BAE FEBRUARY - MARCH 1946

ACREAGES OF PRINCIPAL FIELD CROPS: 1946 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS, 1946 GOALS, AND 1945 PLANTINGS COMPARED WITH 1935-39 AVERAGES



**INCLUDES GOAL FOR ALL SOYBEANS BASED ON 1945 RATIO OF BEANS TO HAY*

△ACREAGE HARVESTED *†PROSPECTIVE PLANTING INCLUDES SEEDED WINTER WHEAT ACREAGE*

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45896 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

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According to the Prospective Plantings Report of March 1, 1946 farmers intended to plant a slightly larger total acreage in crops than last year, including the winter wheat acreage. The intended acreages of potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry beans and peas are below the goals as well as below the acreages planted last year. Intended acreages of wheat, rice, and oats are greater than the goals called for but the corn acreage is smaller than the goal. These acreage data are the first indications of total 1946 agricultural production. Changes from March 1 intentions can be and are often made before planting time. Average yields have been unusually high for most crops during the past few years.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

Approved by The Outlook and Situation Board, March 28, 1946

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SUMMARY

Seasonal increases in supplies of eggs, dairy products, fish and fresh vegetables are expected to result in somewhat larger civilian per capita food supplies for the next few months. However, indicated procurement of larger quantities of meat for export to fill relief commitments will reduce civilian supplies of meats below the relatively high level of the past few months. Prospects for spring and early summer indicate considerably higher civilian food supplies compared with 1945. During that period of 1945, the procurement of food for the armed forces and for lend-lease was very high, and civilian supplies were substantially reduced.

The full effects of the emergency food conservation program cannot be estimated at this time. According to present indications, the export of food will be stepped up during the next few months and the consumption of some foods may be reduced. However, domestic demand for meats, dairy products, fats, sugar and wheat is so great in relation to supplies that procurement of these foods for export is very difficult in the absence of wartime restrictions on purchases by domestic consumers. Fortunately, the military demand for food is far below what it was at this time last year and may be still lower during the next few months.

According to farmers' intentions to plant on March 1, the aggregate acreage of crops planted in 1946 may slightly exceed that actually planted last year. The planned acreage of food grains was 2 percent above that planted for 1945 crops. In contrast, potatoes and dry beans were 5 percent smaller, and dry peas, 12 percent smaller. With average growing weather, another year of near record commercial food production appears likely. In view of the world food shortages, town and city gardens are being encouraged again this year to supplement commercially grown supplies.

Even with the increasing number of civilian consumers, the per capita supplies of fish, poultry, eggs, butter, fluid milk and cream, ice cream, cheese, evaporated milk, sugar and fresh vegetables will be larger in the next few months than they have been during the first quarter of 1946. Little change is expected in supplies of fruits and fats and oils. There will be less meat for civilian consumption because of seasonal decreases in production and heavy procurement for relief use abroad.

In comparison with 1945, the outlook for most foods for civilian consumption in the next few months is much improved. On a per capita basis only butter, margarine and sugar will be shorter than in 1945. Supplies of other fats and fresh vegetables will be much the same as last year. On the other hand, there will be more meat, fish, poultry, eggs, fluid milk and cream, ice cream, and perhaps cheese, evaporated milk, fresh fruit, and processed vegetables.

Table 1.- Planted acreage of major crops, 1935-39 average, 1945, goals for 1946 and prospective plantings for 1946, with percentage comparisons

Crop	Planted acreage		1946 goals	Prospective plantings 1946 1/	Prospective 1946 as percentage of		
	1935-39	1945			1935-39	1945	1946 goal
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total 2/	311,346	322,041	333,267	322,167	103	100	97
Corn, all	97,055	92,867	97,760	92,993	96	100	95
Wheat, all	73,235	68,781	69,875	70,901	97	103	101
Winter	51,577	50,123	---	51,940	101	104	--
Spring, all	21,659	18,658	---	18,961	88	102	--
Oats	40,586	45,234	45,668	46,444	114	103	102
Barley	13,364	11,429	13,400	11,521	86	101	86
Flaxseed	1,938	4,066	4,318	3,497	180	86	81
Rice	1,007	1,517	1,479	1,575	156	104	106
All sorghums	15,254	15,837	---	14,737	97	93	--
Sorghums, all excl. sirup	15,029	15,666	17,093	14,616	97	93	86
Potatoes	3,123	2,896	2,771	2,738	88	95	99
Sweetpotatoes	804	715	761	712	89	100	94
Tobacco 3/	1,644	1,846	1,908	1,954	119	106	102
Beans, dry edible	1,917	1,760	2,101	1,673	87	95	80
Peas, dry field	281	528	588	462	164	88	79
Soybeans for beans 3/	3,042	10,873	10,700	4/ 9,371	308	86	88
Soybeans grown alone 5/	7,262	13,412	---	11,840	163	88	--
Cowpeas grown alone 5/	3,165	1,616	---	1,468	46	91	--
Peanuts, picked and threshed 3/	1,659	3,183	2,500	6/ 2,986	180	94	119
Peanuts, grown alone 5/	2,173	3,958	---	3,759	173	95	--
Tame hay 3/	55,770	59,905	61,313	59,791	107	100	98
Sugar beets	892	775	1,032	933	105	120	90

1/ From March 1946 Prospective Plantings Report and December 20, 1945 Winter Wheat and Rye Report.

2/ Includes all wheat, soybeans for beans, peanuts picked and threshed and sorghum, all, excl. sirup.

3/ Harvested acreage.

4/ 1946 indicated solid equivalent acreage adjusted for the percentage harvested for beans by using the 1944-45 average percentages, by States.

5/ For all purposes.

6/ Assuming the usual relationship of acreages planted alone to acreages for picking and threshing, by States.

Table 2.—Prospective and actual acreages planted in major crops, 1943-45 with percentage comparisons 1/

Crop	1943			1944			1945		
	Prospective	Actual	As percentage of prospective	Prospective	Actual	As percentage of prospective	Prospective	Actual	As percentage of prospective
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Total	290,991	292,319	100	295,355	285,132	97	282,295	277,019	98
Corn, all	96,827	96,786	100	99,583	98,561	99	95,778	92,867	97
Spring wheat	14,707	17,345	118	19,805	19,270	97	19,008	18,658	98
Oats	42,638	42,796	100	46,170	42,767	93	46,555	45,234	97
Barley	19,306	17,304	90	15,074	14,090	93	12,285	11,429	93
Flaxseed	6,051	6,299	104	4,351	3,000	69	4,175	4,066	97
Rice	1,505	1,513	101	1,522	1,494	98	1,507	1,517	101
All sorghums	16,594	17,530	106	18,070	18,180	101	16,285	15,837	97
Potatoes	3,174	3,441	108	3,180	3,022	95	2,893	2,896	100
Sweetpotatoes	813	907	112	902	774	86	715	715	100
Tobacco 2/	1,402	1,458	104	1,716	1,751	102	1,782	1,846	104
Beans, dry edible	2,480	2,673	108	2,528	2,196	87	1,971	1,760	89
Peas, dry field	677	832	123	771	731	95	427	528	124
Soybeans 3/	15,603	14,575	93	14,619	13,428	92	13,236	13,412	101
Cowpeas 3/	2,974	2,270	76	1,835	1,645	90	1,500	1,616	108
Peanuts 3/	5,230	5,094	97	4,704	3,999	85	3,923	3,958	101
Tame hay 2/	60,270	60,880	101	59,910	59,589	99	59,487	59,905	101
Sugar beets	740	616	83	615	635	103	768	775	101

1/ Based on the prospective planted acreages indicated by farmers' reported March 1 intentions.
2/ Acreage harvested.
3/ Grown alone for all purposes. Partly duplicated in hay acreage.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Civilian supplies of meat during the next few months will be smaller than they have been during the winter, but probably larger than in the same months of 1945. Major factors in the reduction are seasonal declines in meat production, low commercial stocks of pork, and substantial takings of meat for export. Offsetting these to some extent will be substantial reductions in the procurement of meat for the armed forces. In the absence of rationing and other wartime controls, it is probable that there will be many problems in the distribution of the available civilian supplies, because of the continuing high demand for meat.

During the early part of this year, meat procurement by the Department of Agriculture was insufficient to meet the export program for the first six months of 1946. However, the procurement program has recently been stepped up. Purchases of cured and frozen meat for export by the Department of Agriculture increased in February and early March over the low level of January. Contracts let for canned meat in March were substantially larger than those of February. The pork set aside was increased on March 3, from 10 to 13 percent of the liveweight hog slaughter. At the same time 10 states, formerly exempt from the beef, veal, and mutton set asides were required to reserve meat for Government purchase. Effective March 10, about 100 non-Federally inspected slaughterers whose plants had been certified by the Secretary of Agriculture, were required to set aside meat for the Government. On March 17, the set asides on better grades of beef were lowered but those on poorer grades were raised. In order to aid in correcting the undue diversion of cattle and calves from regular slaughter channels and to prevent above ceiling prices being paid for cattle and calves, OPA has announced restrictions on custom slaughterers, effective April 1. Custom slaughterers are those who slaughter livestock on a fee basis and do not own the livestock slaughtered.

In the first quarter of 1946, civilian supplies were quite large because of reduced purchases for the armed forces and for export. The consumer demand for meat has continued exceptionally strong. Cold storage stocks of meat are not showing increases that are usual during the heavy production season. Meat production under Federal inspection was slightly larger than in the comparable quarter of 1945. Total meat production was large with a large output in noninspected plants. Pork output was up from the year before, but there was less beef and veal produced under Federal inspection.

Lamb and mutton production after April or May probably will be down from a year earlier, as the 1946 total lamb crop will be smaller than the 1945 crop. The early spring lamb crop this year was estimated to be 13 percent less than a year earlier and was the smallest in almost 20 years. Since November, beef production under Federal inspection has fallen considerably below that of a year earlier but this is largely offset by increases in noninspected slaughter.

The number of cattle and calves on farms January 1, 1946 was the third largest on record, and the potential supply of cattle for slaughter in 1946 is large. While some decline in numbers of steers and in beef heifers occurred in 1945, most of the 2 million head decline in total cattle numbers was in the number of milk stock. The number of beef cows and heifers 2 years old and over on hand January 1, 1946 was an all-time high, indicating that production of beef in the next 2 or 3 years will continue large. Production of higher grade, grain-fed beef for the summer and early fall market may be below a year earlier. An estimated 4 percent fewer cattle were on feed January 1 than a year earlier. Present prices for feeder cattle are higher than a year ago and so are prices of feed grains. Also, smaller supplies of feed grains and other concentrate feeds until the new harvest will tend to limit feeding of cattle. It was announced on March 2 that the 50-cent per 100 pound subsidy paid on higher grade cattle marketed for slaughter will be terminated June 30, 1946. This subsidy was to encourage the grain feeding of cattle and the feeding of cattle to heavier market weights.

Fish

Plentiful supplies of fish will be available for civilians during the next few months. The abundance of fresh and frozen fish this spring and early summer will more than offset the short supplies of canned fish. Almost 100 million pounds of frozen fish were in cold storage on March 1, 1946, about twice as much as the year before. Furthermore, the heavy fishing season begins about April 1. This year's catch may set a new record because of favorable prices, plenty of good boats, improved manpower situation for on-shore plants, and abundant supplies of fish in coastal fishing banks. In contrast, canned fish will continue very short until the new pack is marketed because of heavy export demands upon the 1945 pack. More canned fish is available for civilian consumption than a year ago. Civilian supplies from the 1946 pack will be somewhat larger than during the war, but still materially less than the prewar average of 5 pounds per capita because of the needs of liberated areas.

By March 1, the Department of Agriculture had completed its purchases of canned fish to fill all Government commitments for military and export use for 1945-46. Out of the 1945-46 pack of 617 million pounds, imports of 30 million pounds, and beginning stocks of 60 million, over 400 million pounds have gone into civilian distribution, 60 to the armed forces and about 175 for export. UNRRA has received 60 million pounds, the United Kingdom and British Services about 80 and others 35 million pounds.

Poultry and Eggs

Supplies of poultry meat (including turkey) and eggs will be abundant and at near record rates. During the past few months, consumption of poultry meat and eggs has been at a very high level. Civilian per capita consumption of eggs during January and February is tentatively indicated at an annual rate of about 380-390 eggs, nearly as high as last year's all time record. Civilian supplies of chicken meat were larger than last year because of decreases in Army purchases. The record number of turkeys on farms January 1 and extremely large cold storage stocks have resulted in plentiful turkey supplies for civilian consumption.

Production of eggs during the next few months may be slightly larger than in corresponding months of 1945. A sharp reduction in Army procurement, possibly as much as two-thirds, may leave more eggs available for civilian consumption, commercial storage, and drying for export than last year. By June 1, cold storage stocks of shell eggs may be substantially larger than on June 1, 1945, possibly by as much as 30 percent. This will provide for the continuation of a high level of consumption during the latter part of the year.

Slaughter of chickens raised on farms during the next few months will be much the same as in the corresponding months of 1945. Civilian supplies of chicken may be as large or even larger than last year because of substantial stocks. Cold storage holdings of frozen poultry on March 1 were 325 million pounds, about 30 percent above March 1, 1945 and double those of prewar years.

Dairy Products

Consumption of fluid milk and cream has been at a record rate during the past few months. Removal of all restrictions and the high level of consumer purchasing power were responsible for this. In contrast, butter consumption during the first quarter of 1946 appears to have been lower than in any corresponding period on record.

Total civilian supplies of dairy products (on a whole milk equivalent basis) during the spring and summer probably will be greater than in corresponding seasons of last year even though production may be smaller. Milk production during 1945 set a new record of 122.2 billion pounds. Output in 1946 will be less, primarily the result of a 3 percent reduction in milk cow numbers.

Reduced non-civilian takings in 1946 will more than offset decreases in production. Most of the increase in civilian consumption will be in the form of fluid cream and ice cream. Their consumption was materialy restricted until September of 1945. Fluid milk sales may also be larger than last year. Slightly more evaporated milk and cheese will be available to civilians, but supplies will continue short of unrestricted demand.

Although creamery butter production may be as much as one-third below last year, civilian butter supplies during the next few months will be much the same as in the same period of 1945 because of the reduction in Army procurement. The 1946 procurement program of the military and war services calls for purchases of about 60 million pounds of butter compared with about 325 million pounds in 1945, of which 75 million were turned back to the Department of Agriculture. Most of this will be procured in the April-September period. Furthermore, since present price ceilings do not provide for any seasonal variation in butter prices, most of the butter will be consumed as it is produced during the months of flush production. This will materially affect the supplies of butter next winter.

Fats and Oils

In general, the supplies of fats and oils for domestic civilian consumption in the next few months probably will be much the same per person, as in the same period of 1945 although larger in absolute amount. Civilian supplies may be somewhat less short of demand than in the past few months.

The seasonal increase in butter production beginning in March probably will result in some increase over current levels in total civilian butter supplies for late spring and summer. However, the level of output in the past two months has been so low that the usual seasonal increase to the June peak will not bring the supply of butter into balance with consumer demand at ceiling prices. In 1945 the seasonal increase in output was largely taken up by military procurement. This year, military takings may be no more than one-fourth as large as in the comparable period of 1945.

Per capita civilian lard supplies are not expected to increase very much over last spring's short supplies. Somewhat greater production will be offset by an increase in the total number of people eating out of civilian supplies because of demobilization. Set aside of lard for Government procurement will take about the same proportion of the supply as in the comparable months of 1945. Before the February 10 increase in set aside to approximately 40 percent of the lard and rendered pork fat produced under federal inspection, the rate was 20-25 percent. Military procurement is substantially smaller than a year ago, but a larger quantity of lard is being purchased for export than last year. In January and February this year the Department of Agriculture negotiated contracts for a purchase of a total of 85 million pounds of lard compared with 51 million pounds in January-February 1945.

The supplies of shortening and other edible oils available for civilian consumption in the second quarter will be slightly larger per person than last year. Manufacturers' quotas are 88 percent of base use compared with 80 percent last year. Again, however, the increase in population must be taken into account. In contrast, margarine supplies per person in April-June will be substantially smaller than they were a year earlier. The quota for manufacturers' use has been announced at 95 percent of use in the corresponding period of 1944 whereas the quota for the second quarter of 1945 was 110 percent.

Present prospects for domestic oil crops in 1946 indicate some significant decreases from the 1945 crops. On the basis of farmers' plans on March 1, soybean acreage to be grown alone for all purposes this year would be 11.8 million acres, 12 percent less than 1945; flaxseed acreage -- 3.5 million, 14 percent less than that planted in 1945; acreage of peanuts to be grown alone for all purposes - 3.8 million indicated, down 5 percent from last year. No information on cotton acreage will be available until July. March 1 plans are subject to change, depending in part on weather conditions during the planting season.

Fruit

Somewhat larger supplies of fruit are indicated for civilian consumption during the next few months than in the spring and early summer of 1945. The citrus crop is larger than last year and the season will be somewhat longer, especially in Florida. Furthermore, the takings for the armed forces are substantially smaller than in 1945. The 1945-46 crop of oranges is 3 percent smaller than last year but an increase of 21 percent is indicated for grapefruit.

Canned citrus juices will be plentiful this year, particularly when compared with last season when military procurement took a substantial proportion of the total supply of grapefruit juice as well as large quantities of other fruit juices. Furthermore, a record large pack of grapefruit juice is indicate for this year. Good supplies of canned grapefruit segments will also be available for civilian consumption in the next few months.

Supplies of fresh apples and pears are practically exhausted. The very small carry-over of apples resulted from last year's short crop. The new crop of apples will begin to reach the market in June. Strawberry production this year will be considerably larger than in 1945, but less than prewar becaus considerable wartime reductions in plantings have not yet been restored. It is still too early to predict the supplies of other deciduous fruits because of the critical spring period.

Slightly larger per capita supplies of most canned fruits and dried prunes are available for civilian consumption this spring than last. However, supplies of many items such as pineapple, apricots and cherries are far below demand. Although the total stocks of canned fruits in packers' and distributors' hands on January 1, 1946 were smaller than last year, the stocks held for civilian distribution were about a third larger.

Under a new limitation order on metal for canning, (M-81 as amended March 1, 1946), the commercial canning of some minor fruits and fruit juices will be restricted in 1946, but no limitations have been placed on the canning of the principal fruits and fruit juices.

Vegetables

Commercial production of truck crops for fresh market this spring and early summer will be very large again if growing conditions are at least average. As a result of favorable prices and good yields in the past few years, growers are again increasing acreages planted in practically all truck crops. Estimates of acreage for harvest are now available for half of the total spring truck crop and show an increase of 8 percent above 1945 and nearly 20 percent above the 1935-44 average. Acreage increases are particularly notable for late spring onions and for the earliest of the spring melons.

Production estimates have been made for about one-third of the spring truck crops. These indicate an increase of perhaps 10 percent compared with 1945 spring production and about 48 percent above the 10-year average. Only shallots and early spring asparagus are expected to be below average.

The growing of Victory Gardens is urged again this year because of (1) the critical world wide food shortage and (2) to supply vegetables for fresh use and for home canning, supplementing commercial and market garden production.

As part of the emergency food conservation program, the use of potatoes as a partial substitute for cereals and bread is being emphasized. Fortunately, relatively large supplies of potatoes from the late 1945 crop are still available in storage in the major producing areas. The transportation problems which were slowing up their distribution are being met with some success. Supplies of potatoes during the next few months probably will continue plentiful. Acreages planted or intended to be planted in potatoes for marketing this spring are about 15 percent larger than the average for 1935-44 and slightly larger than last year. Farmers' intentions as of March 1 indicated prospective plantings of 2,738,000 acres of potatoes in 1946, which is 5 percent smaller than the total of 2,896,100 acres planted last year. However, if yield in each of the States, are in line with the 1940-44 average, production on the intended acreage would be 4 percent above the 10 year average. Recent publicit as to the international food situation, or other considerations, may cause farmers to revise these intentions.

Sweetpotatoes will continue short of demand at ceiling prices because of the short crop last year. According to the Prospective Plantings report, the acreage of sweetpotatoes may be 711,700 acres in 1946, slightly smaller than the acreage planted last year, so another short crop is indicated for 1946.

Growers' intentions as of March 1 indicated 462,000 acres of dry peas of edible kinds to be harvested dry (ripe) may be planted in 1946, or about 12 percent less than the acreage planted last year. However, these intentions were expressed before the Government announced an increase in the 1946 support price for dry peas.

Supplies of dry beans are now short, and no improvement is possible until the new crop is marketed. March 1 intentions of growers indicated that 1,673,000 acres of dry beans may be planted in 1946, which would be 5 percent smaller than the acreage planted last year. Here again the actual plantings may differ significantly from the March 1 intentions because farmers' reports were made prior to the March 15 announcement of a price support program and ceiling prices on the 1946 crop of dry beans designed to yield to farmers higher returns than in 1945.

Food Grains

The importance of wheat in the 1945-46 world food picture has been greatly emphasized in the past two or three months. The requirements of Europe and Asia for grain in 1945-46 have far exceeded previous expectations. This has resulted from bad crops in many producing areas, short supplies of other food for export, and the suitability of wheat for civilian feeding. In 1945, crops of grain were short in Europe and Asia because of drought and the aftermath of war. Not only is grain relatively more available for export than other foods, such as meats and dairy products, but it also represented a more important part of the food supplies in those areas. For example, in the U. S. in 1945 about one-fourth of the available calories were provided by grain products compared with one-half in many European countries. Therefore, it is essential from the standpoint of preventing increased malnutrition or actual starvation in many areas of Europe and Asia that the surplus producing areas such as the United States should export as much grain as possible in the few months remaining until the new harvest.

Import requirements for bread grains for the first 6 months of 1946 are:

For	Million bushels
United Kingdom and British Services	97
India	75
France, Belgium, Netherlands, and Norway	99
UNRRA...	155
Occupied zones of Germany, Austria, Italy, Japan .	133
Other countries	173
Total (19.6 million long tons 1/)	732
Total, with substitution for rice (21 million long tons)	784 mil. bu.

The months of wheat harvest in European countries and French North Africa are:

Months	Country
May	French North Africa
May - June	Portugal
May - July	Spain
June - July.	Italy France Rumania Hungary Yugoslavia Bulgaria
July - August.	Germany Austria Poland
August - September ;.......	Scandinavian countries United Kingdom

The 1944 grain crops in the Southern Hemisphere countries of Australia and Argentina were greatly reduced by drought and the Canadian grain crops were adversely affected by unfavorable weather in 1945. The stocks of grain accumulated in the years just before the war have been used for increased feeding, particularly in North America, for industrial alcohol production in the United States, and for fuel in the Argentine. 2/ Nevertheless, huge quantities of grain, mostly wheat, are being exported this year from surplus-producing countries. About 470 million bushels of wheat were shipped in July-December, 1945, including 195 million from the United States. Another 375 to 435 million bushels probably will be shipped in January - June 1946. For comparison, the average annual world trade in wheat and flour in 1935-39 was about 560 million bushels.

1/ Long ton = 37 1/3 bushels of wheat.
2/ See World Food Situation, 1946, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Feb. 1946.

Available supplies of wheat and other grains (exclusive of rice) from the principal exporting countries in the period January-June, 1946 are indicated to be:

A. Wheat and wheat products

From	Million Bushels (60 pounds per bushel)
United States	190 - 210
Canada	135 - 150
Argentina	20 - 35
Australia	30 - 40
Total	375 - 435

B. Rye, corn, oats, barley

From	Million Bushels (56 pounds per bushel)
United States	4
Canada	8
Argentina	20 - 28
Brazil	6
Other	2
Total	40 - 48

The U. S. supplies of wheat were quite large last fall. The 1945 crop set a new record of 1,123 million bushels with a carry-over on July 1 of 281 million bushels. During July-December 1945, there was a record disappearance of wheat in this country. About 195 million bushels were exported in the form of wheat or flour, about 250 million bushels were used for feed, seed, and alcohol, and 270 million for civilian and military food. The stocks on January 1, 1946 were much smaller than originally expected and were held largely in the interior of the country. Out of the total stocks of 689 million bushels of wheat, three-fifths were held in the eight States of Montana, Oklahoma, Kansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Missouri, and Minnesota. Stocks on farms made up well over half of the total January 1 supply, as shown in table 4.

Table 3.- Wheat: Stocks in the United States on January 1 average 1938-42 and annual 1942-46 1/

Location	Average: 1938-42	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Farm	272,956	372,809	490,781	382,726	390,990	368,820
Interior mills, elevators, and warehouses	154,035	221,708	238,125	145,454	160,432	108,243
Commercial	159,344	270,835	245,150	136,264	152,043	102,131
Merchant mills and mill elevators	115,882	135,601	139,385	112,130	114,387	95,355
Commodity Credit Corp., wheat in transit and in steel and wood bins	---	---	45,000	41,400	16,847	14,778
Total	702,217	1,000,953	1158,441	817,974	834,699	689,327

1/ Includes stocks owned by the Government or still outstanding under Government loan.

To help meet this country's export commitments for all foods, President Truman has appointed a Famine Emergency Committee. Numerous emergency conservation measures have been proposed and some adopted. The net result of these measures cannot be estimated at this time. Among the various conservation measures was the increase in the extraction rate of flour from wheat. (WFO-144) Previously about 70 to 72 pounds of white flour had been obtained out of 100 pounds of wheat. Under the new rate about 80 pounds will be obtained, and only 20 pounds will be available for feed and other purposes. This change probably will save between 15 and 20 million bushels in the next four months. Another proposal has been that each individual reduce voluntarily his bread consumption by one slice per day. The maximum saving from this measure during the next four months would be about 10 million bushels of wheat. However, there will be considerable lag before reduced civilian consumption has much effect on demand for wheat in this country. Under recent Government orders, wheat can no longer be used in the manufacture of alcohol, spirits, and beverages (WFO-66, 141) and limitations have been placed on its use as feed. (WFO-144) Hoarding of grain products by consumers and speculative holdings are among possible offsetting factors.

If the use of wheat for feed and seed during the January-June period is held to about 90 million bushels, and if the July 1 carry-over of wheat could be reduced to 150 million bushels, the lowest since the drought years, 440 million bushels would remain for U. S. consumption and for export. If consumption as food by U. S. civilians and armed forces takes around 250 million bushels, as now indicated, only 200 would remain for export even under the most favorable conditions. The goal for exports of wheat from the U. S. during the January-June period was set last fall at 225 million bushels. During the months of January and February approximately 65 million bushels were shipped. Shipments of about 35 million bushels are scheduled for March. Inland transport and shipping problems involved in handling such large quantities of grain have apparently been worked out successfully.

The outlook for the 1946 wheat crop is now favorable. The general condition of the winter wheat crop in early March appeared to be about the same as in December when a crop of about 750 million bushels was indicated. Deterioration in some areas had been about offset by improvement in others. If the winter wheat crop turns out about as indicated, only an average spring wheat crop would be required to bring next summer's wheat harvest to a billion bushels, the fourth of that size in our history. On February 21, Secretary Anderson asked growers in spring wheat states to increase their acreage goals by one million acres or by at least 5 percent.

On the basis of the report of farmers' March 1 intentions to plant and the December report on winter wheat planted acreage, the total 1946 planted acreage of all wheat may be 70,901,000 acres. This would be an increase of 3 percent over last year and the largest acreage planted since 1938. It would be 1 percent above the national wheat acreage goal, exceeding the goal largely in the hard wheat States.

Supplies of rye are also short of requirements for all domestic uses and for export. Stocks of rye on January 1 were 14-1/2 million bushels, much below average. On the basis of the 17 percent decrease in seeded acreage and average yields, the 1946 crop is likely to be even smaller than last year's crop of 26.6 million bushels. As a result of these prospects for short supplies, the use of rye for feed, alcohol, and exports will be curtailed in 1946.

Until the 1946 rice harvest, the domestic supply of rice will continue at a low level, and per capita consumption will be below prewar levels. The need for rice in the Far East is so great that the entire United States supply would not satisfy even a small fraction of it. The strong export demand for rice is expected to continue throughout the 1946-47 marketing year. On February 21, Secretary Anderson appealed to growers to plant all the acreage they could this year. The prospective 1,575,000 acres to be planted this year, as indicated by the March 1 report, is about 4 percent larger than last year's record planted acreage. With average growing weather, such an acreage should provide supplies large enough to satisfy United States consumer requirements in full in the marketing year beginning next August and allow for substantial exports.

Sugar

Civilian per capita supplies of sugar will be somewhat larger in the second quarter of 1946 than in the past two quarters although they will not be as large as in the same period of 1945. The total allocation of 1,385,000 tons of sugar to U. S. civilians is slightly larger than disappearance in the second quarter of 1945, but about 7 percent more people must share it. The world sugar situation is still very tight and increased foreign requirements make it impossible to increase civilian supplies in the U. S. as much as the military takings are reduced.

The OPA has announced that the regular consumer ration of 5 pounds per person for 4 months will be maintained in the period beginning May 1. A special ration allotment of 5 pounds of sugar for home canning was made available as of March 11, and there will be another stamp validated later in the summer. The home canning ration of sugar is under a system of general issuance instead of being based on individual approval by ration boards as was the case in 1945. This procedure is more practical in view of the fact that O.P.A. boards have been greatly reduced in number and now deal exclusively with price problems.

On March 12 the O.P.A. also announced the sugar quotas for industrial users for the second quarter of 1946. In general, they were raised by 10 percent of the 1941 base use, but generally below the allotments of last year.

THE WARTIME CHANGES IN FOOD CONSUMPTION:
Part II.-Civilian Consumption of Major Foods 1/

Despite the shortages of many foods during the war, there were apparently no marked changes in civilian food consumption per capita by broad food groups. However, dairy products did account for a slightly larger proportion of the total poundage of food consumed in 1945 than before the war. The miscellaneous group accounted for somewhat less, principally because of reduced sugar consumption.

Table 4.-Changing content of the civilian per capita food supply during the war 1/

Year	Total as percent of 1935-39	Percent of total for year						
		Meats, fish, poultry, eggs	Dairy products		Fats and oils		Fruits, vegetables, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, beans, peas, nuts	Sugar and misc.
			Excl. butter	Incl. butter	Incl. butter	Excl. butter		
1935-39	100	12	25	26	3	2	38	22
1941	105	13	25	26	3	2	37	22
1942	105	12	27	28	3	2	37	21
1943	105	13	28	29	3	2	35	21
1944	109	13	28	29	3	2	35	21
1945 prel.	111	12	29	30	3	2	37	19

1/ Based on estimated retail weights.

Within the broad food groups there were many shifts in civilian food consumption. Ordinarily the important factors in such shifts include price differentials among specific foods, changes in average income and distribution of families by income groups, and changes in individual food preferences and habits. During the war the principal factor appears to have been short supplies of individual foods which were particularly adapted to military and export needs. In addition, wide spread public interest and education in nutrition developed. Much emphasis was placed on the use of available substitutes in the basic food groups for those which were short. The shifts in food consumption within the broad food groups and their implications for post-war demand are discussed below.

Section A.-Meats, Fish, Poultry, and Eggs

Civilian per capita consumption of meats, fish, poultry and eggs increased during the war and was particularly high in 1944. Meats made up a fairly constant proportion of the total of this high-protein food group until 1945, when civilian supplies were materially reduced. Military and export takings remained high despite the reduction in output from the 1944 record. Fish consumption in 1943 and 1944 was down considerably from prewar levels, and even in 1945 made up only 5 percent of the total consumption of high-protein foods, compared with 7 percent in the 1935-39 period. Consumption of chicken and turkey meat increased during the war and was particularly large in 1943 and again in 1945. Until 1945, egg consumption accounted for about 20 percent of the total poundage of high protein food consumed annually, increasing in that year to about 23 percent.

1/ Part I. was published in the November-December 1945 issue of the National Food Situation.

Table 5.-Civilian per capita consumption of meats, fish, poultry and eggs, 1935-39 average and 1941 to 1945 1/

Year	Total as percent of 1935-39	Percent of total for year			
		Meats	Fish	Chicken and turkey	Eggs
1935-39 ...	100	61	7	12	20
1941	110	63	6	12	19
1942	108	62	5	13	20
1943	113	59	4	16	21
1944	117	63	4	13	20
1945 prel.	113	57	5	15	23

1/ Based on approximate retail weights.

Meats

During 1935-39, civilian meat supplies were lower on a per capita basis than they had been for many years. This resulted largely from the liquidation of livestock and reduced output following the droughts of the mid 30's. Meat consumption averaged only 126 pounds in 1935-39 whereas during the years 1925-29 it averaged 135 pounds per capita per year (wholesale dressed meat). Meat production increased 40 to 50 percent during the war, but procurement for military and export was so large that civilian per capita supplies increased less than 20 percent. Pork output was particularly high in 1943 and 1944. The armed forces procured a smaller proportion of pork than beef so civilian supplies of pork were particularly large in 1943 and 1944.

Table 6.-Per capita civilian consumption of meats, dressed basis, 1935-39 average and 1941 to 1945

Year	Total meats	Beef		Veal		Lamb and mutton		Pork (excl. lard)	
	Pounds	Pounds	Percent of total	Pounds	Percent of total	Pound	Percent of total	Pounds	Percent of total
Av. 1935-39	125.6	54.8	44	8.0	6	6.7	5	56.1	45
1941	141.4	60.5	43	7.6	5	6.8	5	66.6	47
1942	137.9	61.2	44	8.0	6	7.2	5	71.5	45
1943	136.3	49.6	36	7.9	6	6.4	5	72.4	53
1944	149.6	55.1	37	11.2	8	6.6	4	76.7	51
1945 prel.	131.5	54.5	42	11.1	8	7.0	5	58.9	45

In the first two years of our participation in the war, consumption was around 137 pounds per person, much below full civilian demand at ceiling prices. Although meat production was stepped up during the war, the increasing needs of our armed forces and allies kept down the supplies for civilian consumption. Meat production in 1942 totaled 21.7 billion pounds, of which 10 billion was beef and veal, 10.7 billion pork, and 1 billion lamb and mutton. The 1942 meat output was 2.2 billion pounds higher than that of 1941; two-thirds of this increase was in pork. Military takings in 1942 amounted to about 2 billion pounds; other government purchases totaled 1.6 billion pounds. About 70 million pounds were exported through commercial channels to foreign countries and our territories. Civilian meat supplies fell below increased civilian demand early in 1942, when military and lend-lease takings accelerated. Some attempts were made at voluntary restriction of consumption to offset rising prices and poor distribution of available supplies as well as to increase the supplies for war purposes, but these efforts were largely unsuccessful. Ceiling prices, placed on meats in May, gave rise to many problems in regional price differentials which were brought in line in the latter part of the year. With the objective of limiting the supplies of commercially produced meats going into civilian channels to a specific percentage of the corresponding quarter of 1941, a meat restriction order was put into effect on October 1, 1942. However, as this restriction order did not provide adequate quantities for government purchases, an order requiring specific percentages of federally inspected slaughter to be set aside for government purchase was put into effect a few months later.

Meat production increased still further in 1943 and reached 24.1 billion pounds for the year--9.7 billion beef and veal, 1.1 billion lamb and mutton and 13.3 billion pork. Military takings for the year totaled 3.7 billion pounds of which 2.2 were beef and veal. Other government purchases reached almost 3 billion pounds including the 1/2 billion pounds which were put into stocks. The set aside order was announced late in March. Although it was taken off after two weeks of operation, it was re-instituted in June. Slaughter quotas were in operation from April until September in order to strengthen the set asides. These represented an attempt to prevent the channeling of an increased proportion of meat animals to the non-federally inspected slaughterers and thence to civilian consumption. In the last quarter of 1943, meat output increased markedly because of the slaughter of the large spring pig crop, this increase giving rise to many problems in marketing.

Civilian meat supplies were much below demand at ceiling prices throughout the year 1943. Rationing was instituted on March 29 of that year and contributed materially to more equitable distribution of meat, particularly for areas largely dependent on federally inspected slaughter. Only meats slaughtered under federal inspection can enter into interstate commerce. Civilian supplies from these sources are directly affected by Government procurement. As pork output rose in the last few months of 1943, civilian pork supplies became plentiful.

In order to keep down the cost of living the so-called "rollback subsidy" was instituted in June, 1943. This was in the form of payments to slaughterers made in order to offset reductions in ceiling prices for meats averaging about 3 cents per pound at retail.

A new record in meat production was reached in 1944-24.6 billion pounds including 10.7 billion of beef and veal, 1.0 billion of lamb and mutton, and 12.9 billion of pork. Military takings were 4 billion pounds, but other government purchases were only 1.5 billion pounds, materially less than in 1943. Government owned stocks were cut in half, despite the prospects for smaller meat output in 1945 and larger requirements.

Consumption averaged 150 pounds per person in 1944, the highest level since 1911. If civilian meat supplies had been sufficient to meet demand at ceiling prices, it appears likely that consumption of meat per capita might have reached 165 to 170 pounds, despite the fact that meat prices were about 30 percent above 1935-39. Civilian meat supplies were quite large during the first 4 months of 1944, with the result that ration points were very low. All meats except beef roasts and steaks had point values at zero in May and June. Civilian supplies were particularly large during this period because of the large volume of meat output and the apparent lack of adequate storage space and shipping facilities. In July the points required for purchase of better grades and cuts of lamb were increased and in mid-August they were raised for most popular pork cuts. Beef was short of demand most of the year and the large meat supplies were mostly of pork. Hog slaughter established a new recor and military requirements for pork were proportionately much smaller than for beef. By the fourth quarter, however, the effect of the much smaller 1944 spring pig crop was reflected in smaller pork supplies. With the relaxation of restrictions on civilian consumption, commercial cold storage stocks were reduced 280 million pounds during the year. As shown in Table 6, beef consumption per person averaged about 10 percent higher in 1944 than in 1943. Much more veal was available for civilians in 1944. Relatively higher ceiling price for veal than for beef and increased marketings of calves apparently accounted for increased production and for larger civilian supplies. There was little change in lamb and mutton supplies.

Until the last quarter of 1945, meat supplies were much shorter than in 1944, because of the 2 billion pound decrease in output from the 1944 record of 24.6 billion pounds. Purchases for non-civilian use were about equal in the 2 years, although military takings constituted a larger part of the total in 1945. Civilian consumption for the year totaled about 17 billion pounds, over 2 billion pounds less than in 1944 when meat output set a new record and stocks were reduced considerably. On a per capita basis, civilians last year consumed 132 pounds of meat wholesale dressed weight, compared with 150 pounds in 1944.

Meat supplies became tight early in 1945 when hog slaughter dropped off, military procurement took over 20 percent of total supply, and an additional 5 percent was purchased for shipment to our allies. Production dropped off seasonally in the late spring and summer. As military needs were still large, exports were considerably reduced in order that civilian supplies should not fall below an annual rate of 115 per person. Even so, civilian supplies during the late spring and summer were so small compared with large potential consumer demand (perhaps one-fourth below) that distribution of available supplies was very spotty. To meet these problems of distribution and assure supplies for war use, several Government actions were taken. Control Order No. 1 was instituted, setting slaughter quotas for non-federally inspected slaughterers and requiring distributors to deliver civilian supplies according to the trading area distribution in the first quarter of 1944. An enforcement campaign was waged against meat sales above ceiling prices and without surrende of ration points. Also, the Department of Agriculture set up a certification system for non-federally inspected plants so that they could ship meat across State lines and sell meat to the Government.

After the end of the war, the military procurement program was sharply curtailed. With the seasonal rise in output, civilian supplies increased considerably and increased exports to liberated areas were scheduled. The gain in civilian supplies permitted notable reduction in ration point requirements for September and October and ration of meats was ended on November 28.

On September 8, slaughter quotas administered by the Office of Price Administration and area distribution controls were suspended. Set asides of beef and veal, hams, and bacon for Government purchase were taken off on August 19 and on September 2 were taken off all other pork cuts. However, set asides on lower grades of beef and veal and all mutton were reinstituted on October 14 to expedite Government procurement of meat for shipment to liberated areas.

Most of the reduction in meat supplies in 1945 compared with 1944 was in pork. Pork output decreased 20 to 25 percent because of the smaller pig crops in the fall of 1944 and spring of 1945. Beef production in 1945 is estimated at 10 billion pounds, almost 10 percent above 1944 output. Veal and lamb and mutton production were about equal in the 2 years. However, final production estimates for 1945 are not yet available.

Civilian meat supplies in 1946 are indicated at 145 to 150 pounds per capita. There will be more beef and pork than in 1945, but moderately less lamb, mutton, and veal. The increase in civilian supplies compared with 1945 is indicated by the two-thirds reduction in military procurement. These supplies for civilian consumption will be insufficient to satisfy full demand at present prices during most of the year. If the retail price level prevailing in the first quarter is maintained through out the year and consumer purchasing power remains as high as indicated, demand for meat probably will be 10 to 15 percent above supplies. Stated in another way, if ceilings on meat prices were removed, the retail price of meat probably would advance 15 to 20 percent, although for the better grades of beef the rise might be even more pronounced.

If consumer incomes and purchasing power remain near wartime levels during the next few years, meat consumption will continue high. Before the war there was some evidence of a downward trend in per capita meat consumption, but high consumer incomes may keep consumption well above the pre-war trend for several years at least. Although livestock numbers may be reduced in 1946, per capita meat supplies probably will continue larger than before the war. Meat animal production is now at a level about 40 percent above 1935-39. Increased efficiency in feed grain production in recent years will contribute to a continuing large livestock output.

Fish 1/

Fish supplies for civilians during the war were materially restricted, partly by noncivilian takings, but to a greater degree by shortages of boats, manpower, materials, facilities, transportation and military activities in important fishing areas. By 1945 the consumption of fresh and frozen fish by civilians had returned to the pre-war level of about 5 pounds per person. Canned fish consumption averaged about 5 pounds per person before the war, but fell to less than half of that quantity in the last two or three years as the result of heavy military and export needs. Supplies for civilians out of the 1945-46 pack are estimated at from 3 to 3-1/2 pounds. Supplies of canned fish for civilians were much below demand at ceiling prices throughout the war. Increases in the post-war consumption of canned fish are likely, as the great variety of canned fish covers a wide range of prices and consumer preferences.

1/ A special study of the supply and distribution of fish is being prepared and will be published in the near future.

Fresh fish consumption varies greatly in the United States, with high rates of consumption in the coastal areas and very low rates in some sections of the interior. During the war the distribution of frozen fish was extended. As the processing and marketing of many types of fish are improved and as air transport becomes more economical, fresh and frozen fish consumption will probably increase for the country as a whole.

Poultry and Eggs

On a per capita basis, the consumption of poultry and eggs appears to have increased tremendously during the war, compared with average consumption in the prewar period 1935-39. However, consumption in 1935-39 was much smaller than in the 1920's. Low consumer incomes had reduced demand in the 1930's and there was a heavy liquidation of chickens on farms during the drought years. Furthermore, egg prices were low in relation to feed costs. Chicken consumption averaged 18 pounds per person in 1935-39, compared with 20 pounds in 1925-29. Similarly, egg consumption fell from 334 eggs per capita in 1925-29 to 298 in 1935-39.

Increased purchasing power in the hands of consumers, fixed maximum prices, and shortage of meat supplies in relation to demand contributed to a substantial increase in civilian demand for poultry products during the war. At the same time, requirements for our armed forces and lend lease pyramided. The ratios of prices of poultry products to feed costs were favorable for considerable increases in production, partly as a result of the Department of Agriculture's price programs. Chicken meat production reached the record of 3.8 billion pounds dressed weight in 1943. The peak egg output of 5.3 billion dozen came in 1944, and the record turkey output of about 680 million pounds came in 1945. Comparable 1935-39 production was 2.3 billion pounds of chicken meat, 350 million pounds of turkey meat, and 3.3 billion dozen eggs.

Table 7.- Per capita civilian consumption of poultry and eggs, 1935-39 average and 1940 to 1945

	Chicken		Turkey		Eggs	
	Pounds 1/	Percent of 1935-39	Pounds 1/	Percent of 1935-39	Number	Percent of 1935-39
1935-39 average	17.9	100	2.6	100	298	100
1940	18.0	101	3.6	138	316	106
1941	19.4	108	3.6	138	311	104
1942	21.5	120	3.7	142	311	104
1943	28.0	156	3.4	131	345	116
1944	23.6	132	3.3	127	351	118
1945 prel.	24.6	137	4.4	169	390	131

1/ Dressed weight.

Civilian egg consumption remained low in 1942. Supplies of other foods were still relatively large and egg prices had increased proportionately more than many other foods. Procurement for export under lend-lease amounted to about 625 million dozen, including the accumulation of stocks by the War Food Administration.

Military takings were around 220 million dozen. During the late winter and spring of 1943 the civilian demand for eggs increased so much because of the meat shortage that Government procurement of dried eggs fell short of requirements. WFO-40 was in effect from March to October 1943 as an attempt to channel stored shell eggs into drying but was not successful in obtaining the desired results. WFO-41 was issued in March 1943 to restrict production of spray dried whole eggs for Government purchase and to limit the production of other egg products. Net procurement of eggs for lend-lease was slightly smaller in 1943 than in the previous year, but military purchases rose to about 390 million dozen. With the new high in egg production, 5 billion dozen in 1943, civilian egg consumption established a new record of 345 eggs per capita despite the larger non-civilian takings.

The poultry supply situation became acute during the meat shortage early in 1943, but improved later in the year when record poultry supplies were marketed. Civilian consumption of chicken averaged 28 pounds per person for the year. Turkey production in 1943 was limited by the shortage of hatching eggs. WFO-71 was in effect from August to October, to provide turkeys to the armed forces. Civilian consumption of turkey was smaller in 1943 than it had been for several years.

The supply and demand situation for poultry products changed markedly in 1944. Chicken production decreased somewhat from the 1943 record, and military takings increased from 148 million pounds in 1943 to 470 million in 1944. In the early part of the year, WFO-91 was in effect and required the set aside of poultry in storage for Government purchase. Civilian supplies of chicken were about 20 percent smaller than in 1943. However, with a much larger supply of other meats, the demand for chicken decreased, and retail prices were below ceilings most of the year. Late in 1944, meat supplies for civilian consumption became short and it was necessary to institute 100 percent set asides for military procurement (WFO-119) on commercial broiler production in the important producing areas. The required set aside of turkeys for Government purchase was set at 100 percent during both the spring and fall of 1944 (WFO-106).

On the other hand, there was a surplus of eggs at support prices in the spring of 1944 and the War Food Administration set up a price support program. About 840 million dozen eggs were purchased for lend-lease and for price support and the armed forces took another 500 million dozen. Retail prices were below ceilings in most areas. For the year as a whole, civilians consumed about 351 eggs per person. In the latter part of 1944, despite the heavy culling of flocks and the raising of fewer birds for replacement, egg production continued above the comparable months of 1943. At the same time, reduced meat and chicken supplies were reflected in heavier demand for eggs, so that eggs sold at ceiling prices in most areas.

In the first 7 or 8 months of 1945 the supply situation for poultry products was much tighter than in 1944. Until the sudden end of the war resulted in heavy cutbacks in Government procurement, large non-civilian takings and the shortage of meats for civilians in 1945 caused consumer demand to exceed supplies, particularly of higher grade eggs and chicken.

Egg production in 1945 is currently estimated at 5.1 billion dozen, slightly below the 1944 record. Egg purchases by the Department of Agriculture in 1945 dropped to around 100 million dozen because of reduced production, heavy civilian demand, and military procurement of over 500 million dozen eggs. With meat supplies short and consumer incomes high, civilian egg consumption in 1945 set a new record of 390 eggs per person, 11 percent above the previous record of 351 in 1944 and 31 percent above the 1935-39 average of 298 per person. Despite the very high rate of consumption, demand exceeded supplies in many areas during most of the year.

Although chicken production in 1945 was at a near record rate, civilian supplies of chicken were held down until after V-J Day by even greater military procurement than in 1944. More than one-tenth of chicken production went to the armed forces until the end of the war, the largest amounts being purchased in the commercial broiler areas. As a result, areas normally dependen on commercial broiler production for chicken meat supplies, principally the Northeast, were disproportionately affected. After set asides on chicken were terminated on August 27, civilian supplies increased so much that per capita consumption for the year as a whole averaged about 24.6 pounds, compared with 17.9 pounds in 1935-39.

Because of the favorable price and demand situation for 1945, turkey meat production was increased to a new record of 680 million pounds dressed weight, almost 150 million pounds above that of 1944 and 330 million pounds above the prewar average. Procurement for the armed forces was substantially completed much earlier in 1945 than in 1944. The set aside was terminated on September 24, whereas in 1944 it continued until the middle of November.. Estimated military procurement was substantially less than the 100 million pounds purchased in 1944, so civilians benefited directly from the increase in turkey production. Record amounts of turkey were available for the holiday season. Per capita civilian consumption is estimated at about 4.4 pounds, a third above 1944 and nearly twice as large as in 1935-39.

Less chicken meat will be produced in 1946 than in 1945, but reduced military takings and record commercial holdings of chicken meat at the beginning of the year will provide civilian supplies about as large as the 24.6 pounds per capita consumed in 1945. Civilian supplies of turkeys are also likely to continue at a high level for the year as a whole; production may not be maintained at the high 1945 level, but January 1 stocks were almost double prewar holdings. Furthermore, military procurement will be much smaller than in 1945.

Although civilian supplies of eggs in 1946 would permit consumption of over 400 eggs per person, slightly above the record rate for 1945, demand for eggs at support prices may be somewhat below the rate of consumption in 1945. This prospective decrease in civilian demand for eggs is indicated partly by a reduction in the gap between demand and supply for red meats, and partly by a somewhat lower level of consumer income. Supplies of eggs are expected to be particularly abundant during the next few months, which include the flush production season. Egg production for 1946 is forecast at 4,900 million dozen, or 3 percent less than in 1945. The 1946 egg price support program was announced by the Department of Agriculture on December 27. Purchases of dried whole, frozen and graded shell eggs are to be made so that prices received by farmers may average not less than 27 cents per dozen in Midwest and 29 cents per dozen for the country as a whole during the flush production season. This support level is expected to assure the 90 percent of parity required by law.

In the next few years, chicken consumption may be higher than prewar because of the developing broiler market. The postwar demand for eggs is likely to be smaller than the high wartime peaks. But if consumer purchasing power remains relatively high and the prices of eggs relative to other farm products are favorable to continued large production, egg consumption will be much above the low rate of 1935-39.

THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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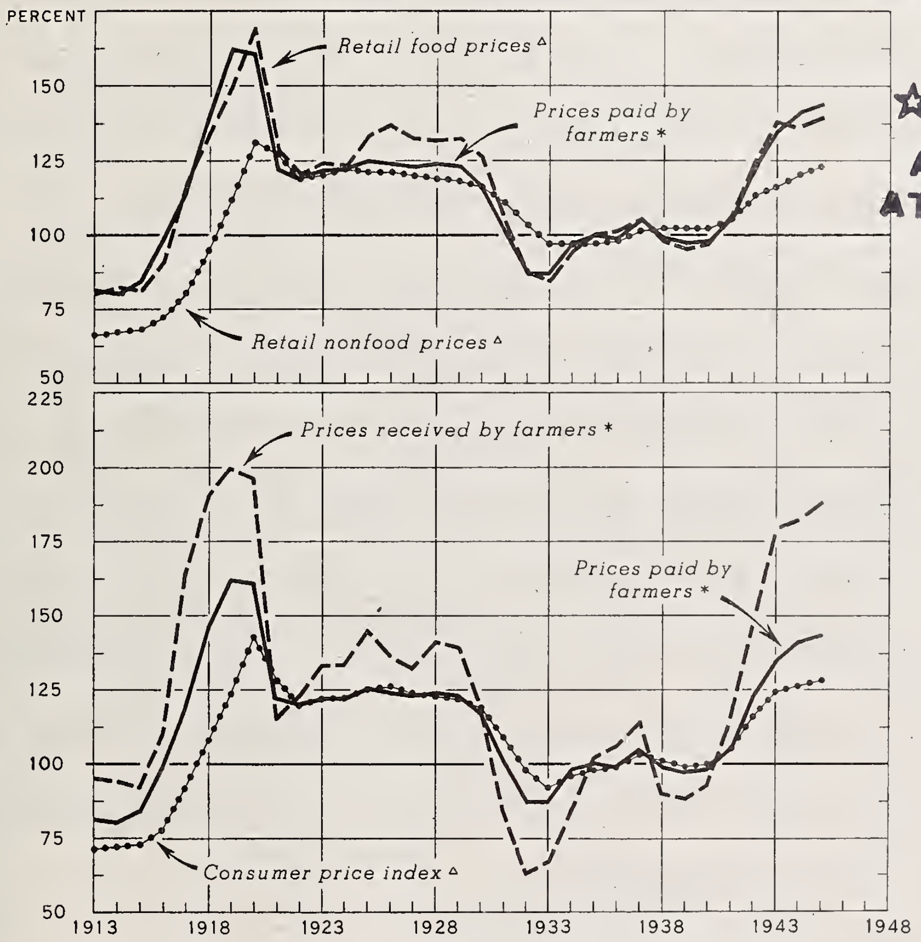
PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS, CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, AND RETAIL FOOD AND NONFOOD PRICES, 1913-45
INDEX NUMBERS (1935-39=100)



△ FROM BLS CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MODERATE INCOME FAMILIES IN LARGE CITIES
* BAE DATA PRICES PAID EXCLUDING INTEREST AND TAXES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45944 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The price level was very high in the two years after World War I, although farm prices rose proportionally less than non-farm prices. In late 1920 and 1921, farm prices and consumer prices fell precipitously. Between the two wars, prices received by farmers fluctuated more widely than prices paid or consumer prices, and during World War II they rose much higher.

On the basis of the experience of World War I, there is a strong possibility of further rise in prices within the next two years because supplies of some foods and other goods will be short of demand for domestic use and export. The export demand for many farm products is likely to be reduced before the supplies of durable non-food items catch up with demand. Accordingly, substantial shifts in prices from present relationships may be expected.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, May 8, 1946

SUMMARY

Domestic supplies of most foods during the next few months, with the principal exceptions of fats and grains, will be at least as large per person as in the late spring and summer of 1945. A minimum of 3,000 calories will be available per person per day this spring and summer, despite reductions in civilian supplies resulting from substantial exports of meats, fats, sugar and grain during the next few months.

Although supplies will be generally below consumer demand at present prices, the over-all per capita supply of food will average well above that of the prewar years 1935-39. Supplies expected to be less than prewar during this period include some cereal products, potatoes and sweetpotatoes, dry beans, fats and oils, sugar, canned fruits and canned fish. Against these relatively short supplies will be record or near record per capita quantities of fresh and processed vegetables, poultry and eggs, fresh and frozen fish, canned fruit juices, cheese, fluid milk and cream, ice cream, and skim milk products.

Total Food Supplies Continue Large

Production of food crops and livestock for sale and farm-home consumption in 1946 is now estimated to be about one-third above the average for 1935-39. If so, 1946 food production would about equal that of 1943 and be exceeded only slightly by the record production in 1944 and 1945.

United States civilians are expected to receive substantially more of the total 1946 food supply than the estimated 82 percent which they had in 1945. The increased share for civilians results from the reduction in the proportion taken for the armed forces and military civilian feeding which will be about 3 percent in 1946 compared with 13 percent in 1945. Procurement for export is expected to take about 8 percent of the 1946 supply, compared with 6 percent in 1945. (See Table 3)

1946 Civilian Consumption at Record Level

Civilian per capita food consumption in 1946 is indicated to be about 14 percent above the average for 1935-39, a new record. For the year 1946 as a whole, civilian per capita consumption of many foods is expected to be higher than in 1945. These include frozen vegetables and fruits, meats, fresh and frozen fish, turkey, cheese, ice cream, fluid milk and cream, coffee and tea. About the same quantities of fresh and canned fruits and vegetables, potatoes, lard, rice, cocoa, and sugar will be consumed per person, but less butter, margarine, other fats, chicken, eggs, wheat and corn products and sweetpotatoes.

Quantities of the major nutrients available from 1946 per capita civilian food supplies are expected to be much the same as in 1945 except for somewhat larger quantities of calcium and riboflavin. Available supplies of all major nutrients are considerably larger than during 1935-39. For the year 1946 as a whole, an average of about 3,300 calories is expected, practically the same as in the prewar years 1935-39. This level is at least 10 percent higher than that of any other country in the world, with the exception of Canada.

Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption and civilian per capita food consumption, 1943-45, and forecasts for 1946, with percentage comparisons.

(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1943	1944	1945 Revised	1946 Forecast 1/	1946 as a percentage of 1945
Food grains 2/	116	147	154	150	97
Truck crops 3/	124	135	143	145	101
Fruits and nuts 4/	108	121	118	123	104
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 5/	125	106	109	104	95
Sugar crops 6/	81	81	94	107	114
Total food crops 7/	116	128	131	131	100
Meat animals 8/	150	155	145	140	97
Poultry 9/	152	153	155	148	95
Dairy products 10/	113	117	121	117	97
Total food livestock	138	142	139	134	96
Total food production	133	138	137	133	97
Total agricultural production	128	136	132	131	99
Civilian per capita food consumption	106	111	112	114	102

1/ Production indexes are based on the actual and intended plantings, preliminary crop indications, and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products for the calendar year 1946.

2/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat.

3/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans beets, cabbage, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes, and watermelons) and truck crops for processing (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes).

4/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts.

5/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, sweetpotatoes.

6/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup.

7/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops.

8/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs.

9/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers.

10/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary indications for 1946, with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	Prel. indication for 1946	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Percent	Percent
Meats (dressed weight)							
Beef	54.8	49.6	53.4	58.7	62	113	106
Veal	8.0	7.9	11.3	11.6	11	138	95
Lamb and mutton	6.7	6.4	6.7	7.2	7	104	97
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	72.4	77.0	60.2	67	119	111
Total meats	125.6	136.3	148.4	137.7	147	117	107
Poultry products							
Eggs 2/	37.3	43.1	44.0	48.8	46.9	126	96
Chicken (dressed weight)	17.9	28.0	23.6	25.3	24.0	134	95
Turkey (dressed weight)	2.6	3.4	3.4	4.3	4.5	173	105
Dairy products							
Total milk (whole milk equivalent)	801	761	789	799	814	102	102
Cheese	5.5	5.0	4.9	5.9	6.5	118	110
Cond. and evap. milk	16.7	18.6	16.1	18.2	17.3	104	95
Fluid milk and cream	340	403	424	438	454	134	104
Fats and oils							
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	16.7	11.7	12.0	10.9	10	60	92
Lard	11.0	14.6	13.8	12.1	12.4	113	102
Margarine	2.3	3.1	3.1	3.3	2.9	126	88
Shortening	11.7	9.8	9.2	10.0)	15.6	87	98
Other edible fats & oils	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.0)			
Total fats & oils 3/	48.0	45.6	44.6	42.3	40.9	85	97
Fruits							
Fresh							
Citrus	48.8	59.6	67.8	65.7	66	135	100
Apples (commercial)	30.2	25.1	26.5	23.0)	77	86	96
Other (excluding melons)	59.5	36.2	50.3	56.8)			
Total fresh	138.5	120.9	144.6	145.5	143	103	98
Processed							
Canned fruit	15.2	12.2	8.7	15.7	15-17	105	102
Canned juices	4.1	6.6	10.0	10.1	12.0	293	119
Frozen	4/ .7	1.3	2.0	2.4	3.3	471	138
Dried	5.7	5.9	6.4	5.9	5.6	98	95
Vegetables							
Fresh	235	236	255	269	261	111	97
Canned	31.1	33.7	33.2	41.4	41-43	135	101
Frozen	4/ .4	.7	1.6	1.6	2.1	525	131
Potatoes	131	133	128	130	130	99	100

--Continued

Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary indications for 1946, with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	Prel. indication for 1946	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Percent	Percent
Sweetpotatoes	23.6	21.6	20.9	21.3	20	85	94
Beans, dry edible	8.8	8.8	7.9	8.0	7.5	85	94
Peas, dry field	.5	1.0	1.2	1.0	.7	140	70
Canned soups & baby foods	5.2	6.9	8.8	10.5	10.5	202	100
Sugar (refined)	96.5	80.3	89.0	73.2	73	76	100
Grains							
Corn products:							
Corn meal	22.9	21.0	20.0	19.0	17	74	89
Corn sirup	7.7	12.1	12.1	12.0	10.0	130	83
Corn starch	1.3	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.2	92	86
Corn sugar	2.7	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.2	119	84
Breakfast food	1.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.1	124	81
Hominy	1.2	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	117	82
Oats:							
Oatmeal	3.9	4.0	3.2	4.1	4.4	113	107
Barley:							
Barley food products 5/	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	125	100
Wheat:							
Flour 6/	153.1	161.3	161.0	161.4	153	100	95
Breakfast food	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.5	97	95
Rye:							
Rye flour 7/	2.2	3.3	2.8	2.5	2.4	109	96
Rice, milled	5.7	6.5	6.1	5.4	5.6	98	104
Beverages							
Coffee 8/	14.0	13.0	15.8	16.4	17	121	104
Tea	.67	.46	.53	.59	.66	99	112
Cocoa beans	4.4	2.9	3.6	3.9	3.8	86	97
Peanuts (shelled)	4.4	6.4	6.1	6.7	n.a.	--	--

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official Census estimates of total population adjusted for under-enumeration of children under 5 and for military personnel eating out of civilian supplies. 1/ Data for 1946 are preliminary indications; calendar year basis except for canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; fresh citrus fruits, peanuts, and dry field peas on a crop-year basis, rice on an August 1 year. All years begin in the year designated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year and rice which begins in August of previous year. 2/ In terms of number of eggs, the apparent per capita consumption was 298 in 1935-39, 345 in 1943, 352 in 1944, 390 in 1945 and 375 indicated for 1946. 3/ Includes actual weight of butter, fat content of other items. 4/Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 5/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent. 6/ Includes white, whole wheat, and Semolina flour. 7/ Revised. 8/ Green bean basis.

Table 3.- Total food disappearance: Source and distribution, 1935-39 average and 1940 to 1946 1/

	Source of total food				Distribution by claimants						
	Total food disappearance	Food production	Imports	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Civilian	Military including military civilian feeding	2/Department of Agriculture: Net purchases	Shipments	Reduction in Stocks	Increase in stocks	Commercial exports and shipments 3/
	Percentage of food disappearance in each year											
1935-39	100.0	93.7	6.4		.1	97.4						2.6
1940	100.0	94.9	5.5		.4	97.8						2.2
1941	100.0	94.5	6.0		.5	93.7	2.1	2.5	2.3		.2	1.7
1942	100.0	94.1	3.8	2.1		86.3	6.5	6.2	5.2		1.0	1.0
1943	100.0	95.3	4.9		.2	78.9	11.7	8.1	7.1		1.0	1.3
1944	100.0	94.5	4.8	.7		80.3	12.7	5.8	6.5	.7		1.2
1945	100.0	94.9	4.7	.4		81.5	12.6	4.2	5.0	.8		1.7
1946 Forecast	100.0	95.5	4.4	.1		88.9	2.8	5.3	6.0	.7		3.0
	Percentage of 1935-39 food disappearance											
1935-39	100.0	93.7	6.4		.1	97.4						2.6
1940	109.7	104.1	6.0		.4	107.2						2.5
1941	114.1	107.8	6.9		.6	106.9	2.4	2.8	2.6		.2	2.0
1942	124.6	117.2	4.7	2.7		107.4	8.1	7.8	6.5		1.3	1.3
1943	129.7	123.7	6.3		.3	102.3	15.2	10.5	9.3		1.2	1.7
1944	136.8	129.3	6.6	.9		109.9	17.4	7.9	8.8	.9		1.6
1945	135.3	128.4	6.5	.5		110.3	17.1	5.7	6.8	1.1		2.3
1946 Forecast	130.4	124.6	6.6	.1		115.8	3.7	6.8	7.8	1.0		4.0

1/ The upper portion of the table divides the total disappearance in each year (1) according to the source of the food, and (2) according to its distribution. Both the total disappearance figure and the breakdown are on an index number basis; that is, they represent quantities weighted by average farm prices in the period 1935-39. The disappearance figure includes both domestically produced and imported foods. The lower portion of the table contains the same data expressed as a percentage of total food disappearance in 1935-39 instead of total disappearance in each year. 2/ The quantities assigned to the Department of Agriculture are principally food for lend-lease. These quantities are measured in two ways: (1) in terms of Department of Agriculture purchases from commercial channels, and (2) in terms of shipments out of the country. When measured in terms of purchases, additions to Department of Agriculture stocks included. When measured in terms of shipments, additions to stocks are shown separately. Department of Agriculture shipments were smaller than the total quantities purchased from 1941 to 1943 and stocks were built up. In 1944, 1945, and 1946, however, shipments exceeded purchases and stocks were decreased. 3/ The 1935-39, 1940-41 exports and shipments are strictly commercial. For the war years, they approximate the commercial portion as indicated by total exports and shipments less the exports assignable to the Department of Agriculture.

The Nutrition Situation in 1946

The nutritive value of the per capita civilian food supply for 1946 is expected to be about the same as in 1945. The number of calories available per person per day will average about 3300, compared with 3350 in 1945, and 3250 in 1935-39. (Table 4)

If the emergency reduction in the manufacture of wheat products for domestic consumption is not continued beyond July 1, it will have no significant effect upon per capita nutritive supplies for the year as a whole. Even with the reduction in the consumption of wheat products during the next few months, the average supplies of the essential nutrients will exceed prewar quantities and recognized minimum requirements. However, disparities in food distribution, particularly between income groups, are glossed over in such averages.

The average quantities of iron and thiamine will be slightly lower this year than in 1945 because of the decrease in the supplies of grain products but will still be considerably above the 1935-39 level.

The supplies of calcium and riboflavin are expected to be 4 to 6 percent larger in 1946 because of the expected increase in per capita civilian consumption of whole milk dairy products. The average amounts of protein, Vitamin A, ascorbic acid, and niacin will be significantly above prewar levels.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Civilian meat supplies will be far short of demand at ceiling prices during the next few months. Production will be down somewhat because of the usual seasonal decline in hog marketings after June; Government procurement of meat to fill relief commitments will be substantial; and stocks of meat are small at the present time. Areas dependent upon the inshipment of Federally inspected meats will be particularly hit by the shortages of the next few months. By next fall, however, seasonal increases in meat production will begin, and civilian supplies will be substantially larger than during the late spring and summer. For the year 1946, it now appears that per capita meat supplies will average 145-150 pounds (dressed meat basis) compared with 138 pounds in 1945 and 126 pounds in 1935-39.

Production of meat in 1946 is forecast at 22.7 billion pounds, moderately less than the official estimate of 22.9 billion pounds for 1945. The decrease in beef and veal and lamb and mutton production will be largely offset by increased hog slaughter.

Despite the fact that exports in 1946 may be about as large as the total quantity exported in 1945, non-civilian requirements will be much smaller in 1946 than in 1945. Military procurement is not likely to exceed 900 million pounds compared with a net procurement of 3,800 million pounds in 1945.

Table 4.- Nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945, and forecast for 1946 with percentage comparisons. 1/

Nutrients	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 Forecast	1946 as percentage of -	
							1935-39	1945
Food energy....	Calories	3,250	3,390	3,460	3,350	3,300	102	99
Protein:......	Grams	89	98	100	101	100	112	99
Fat	Grams	132	141	144	138	141	107	102
Carbohydrate..	Grams	428	430	439	426	410	96	96
Calcium.......	Grams	.90	1.04	1.05	1.09	1.13	126	104
Iron..........	Milli-grams	13.8	16.5	18.2	18.7	18.4	133	98
Vitamin A.....	Int'l units	8,100	9,200	9,400	9,900	9,500	117	96
Thiamine......	Milli-grams	1.54	2.18	2.27	2.21	219	142	99
Riboflavin....	Milli-grams	1.86	2.20	2.49	2.53	2.67	144	106
Niacin........	Milli-grams	15.4	18.8	21.3	21.2	21.3	138	100
Ascorbic Acid.	Milli-grams	115	126	135	141	138	120	98

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on the basis of estimates of apparent civilian consumption (retail basis), including estimates of consumption in town and city gardens, supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Revised.

No deductions have been made in the nutrient estimates for the loss or waste of food in the home or for the destruction or loss of nutrients during the preparation of food.

The data for iron, thiamine, riboflavin and niacin include the amounts of these nutrients added to white bread and flour under the enrichment program. and assume the continuation of the 80 percent extraction rate throughout the year.

The destinations of meat shipped from the United States this year will be much different from those of 1945, when the United Kingdom, the British Colonies, and Dominions received approximately 30 percent of total exports and shipments, Russia 40 percent and UNRRA 20 percent. On the basis of present plans for 1946, the United Kingdom and British Colonies and Dominions will receive approximately 20 percent of the total; Russia will receive only a very small quantity, and UNRRA will receive almost 40 percent. The other major recipients will be France, Belgium, and the Netherlands East Indies.

The distribution of civilian meat supplies has become progressively uneven as meat production has declined from the high level of the winter. Slaughter of livestock under federal inspection has decreased although the proportion of non-inspected slaughter has increased, particularly in the case of cattle. In order to increase supplies for interstate shipment and for Government procurement, as well as to improve meat distribution, quotas were set on cattle slaughter by custom slaughterers April 1, and a slaughter quota program for both federally inspected and non-inspected slaughter was announced by OPA and the Department of Agriculture on April 15. The latter program became effective April 28, and is similar to part of the program under OPA Control Order No. 1 which was in effect from April 30 to September 8, 1945. Control Order No. 1 set slaughter quotas for non-federally inspected slaughterers and required distributors to deliver civilian supplies according to the trading area distribution in the first quarter of 1944.

Beef supplies for civilians in the balance of 1946 will be larger than a year earlier. Fed cattle probably will make up a smaller proportion of the total because the number of cattle on grain feed for market April 1 in the Corn Belt was 17 percent less than the large number on feed a year earlier. This reduction reflects higher prices for feeder cattle, smaller feed-grain supplies than a year ago, and the general uncertainty as to future cattle prices to farmers. Supplies of fed cattle for market in the remainder of the year will be materially less than a year earlier. Marketings of grass-fat cattle probably will be large because numbers of beef cattle on farms and ranches are still at a high level.

Fish

Seasonally heavy production of fresh fish and large cold storage holdings of frozen fish are fully adequate to meet all consumer demands at present prices during the next few months. Imports of frozen fillets are also at record levels. Cold storage holdings of frozen fish on May 1 are expected to be about 77,000,000 pounds compared with 32,500,000 pounds a year ago.

Civilian supplies of canned fish and shellfish for the coming year will not change appreciably from last year's. Requirements for export continue large. To meet these commitments, canners of the principal seafood items are operating under a Government set-aside order.

The civilian demand for canned fish and shellfish will continue to exceed the supply although the present exceptionally tight situation may be eased somewhat during the next six months as the tuna, sardine, and East Coast mackerel canners go into peak seasonal production and supplies from the new packs are marketed. Tuna should be the most plentiful canned item in relation to demand because exports will be small and a larger tuna fleet is now fishing in waters closed during the war. Canned salmon, pilchards, and West Coast mackerel products from last year's pack already have been distributed through the various wholesale and retail channels, and marketings from the new pack will not begin until fall.

Poultry and Eggs.

Large supplies of poultry and eggs for civilian consumption during the coming months will be particularly important in supplementing the short supplies of meat for civilians. Egg production in the latter part of the year will be seasonally smaller than in the first 6 months, but, with reduced Government procurement and substantial stocks, adequate supplies probably will be available to fill civilian demand. Military procurement of shell eggs is much smaller than a year ago. The Government procurement program for dried eggs is larger now than last year, but will be reduced in the latter half of 1946. It appears that the commercial stocks of shell eggs on July 1 will be at least 30 percent higher than the year before. Civilian consumption of eggs so far in 1946 has been only slightly smaller than in the comparable months of 1945. Consumption for the year 1946 has been estimated at about 375 eggs per person, slightly below the 1945 record of 390 eggs.

Near record quantities of chicken have been consumed by civilians during the past few months. Smaller army procurement and large withdrawals from cold storage have enabled supplies more nearly to meet demand which has increased because of shortages of other meats. More chicken will be available during the latter part of 1946 as marketings increase seasonally although output will be slightly smaller than in the same period of 1945. Substantial supplies are still in cold storage and, with smaller takings by the armed forces, civilian supplies will be much the same as the year before. Civilian per capita consumption of chicken in 1946 is expected to average about 24 pounds compared with 25 pounds in 1945.

Civilian consumption of turkey in 1946 may exceed slightly the record rate of 4.3 pounds consumed per capita in 1945. Substantial supplies of turkey are now in storage. The reduction in procurement of turkey for the armed forces is expected to offset in part the smaller slaughter during the 1946 marketing season.

Dairy Products

The supplies of dairy products for civilian consumption will average about the same on a milk equivalent basis per person this year as they were in 1945. May, June, and July are the months of flush milk production and supplies of dairy products will be at their peaks for the year. Milk production in 1946 is forecast at 2 or 3 percent below the record rate of 1945, principally because of the decrease in the number of cows on farms. Non-civilian purchases of dairy products are not expected to exceed 30 percent of the total taken in 1945, on a milk equivalent basis. In the latter part of 1945, substantial quantities of dairy products were sold by the armed forces to the Department of Agriculture, both for distribution into civilian channels and for export.

Butter supplies for civilian consumption will be somewhat larger in the next few months than they have been during recent months. The outlook for the latter part of the year is for a low level of butter production and short supplies. The output of creamery butter in the balance of the year 1946 is dependent on the changes in relative prices for dairy products and on restrictions on alternative uses of butterfat.

Civilian consumption of butter percapita in 1946 may not exceed 10 pounds compared with almost 11 pounds in 1945, and 16.7 pounds in 1935-39. Total production of butter in 1946 probably will not exceed 1450 million pounds compared with the total of 1706 million pounds in 1945. Creamery butter output in 1945 was the lowest since 1923.

The Office of Economic Stabilization announced on April 15 that the sale of whipping cream would be prohibited and that the use of butterfat in the manufacture of ice cream would be limited in essentially the same manner as it was during the war. Orders implementing the restrictions have not yet been issued. Whipping cream and ice cream have provided a much more profitable outlet for butterfat so that with a strong demand for fluid milk the production of butter, cheese, and evaporated milk has been reduced since the wartime limitation orders were lifted last fall.

Civilian supplies of condensed and evaporated milk are now short of demand in some areas despite the seasonal increase in milk production and reductions in noncivilion procurement. The production of condensed and evaporated milk has been running about a fourth below last year's rate. Unless production is stepped up, it appears that civilian supplies will be short of demand during the balance of the year. Consumption per capita may average between 17 and 17½ pounds for the year 1946, about a pound less than the high annual rate for 1945, but somewhat above the 1935-39 average.

Cheese supplies for civilian consumption are also less than consumer demand at ceiling prices, but even so, civilian consumption of cheese per capita may set a new record in 1946, perhaps 6½ pounds. This would be made possible by the heavy reduction in procurement for military use and for export more than offsetting an expected drop of 10 percent in cheese production from last year's totals.

Supplies of fluid milk and cream have been increasing seasonally. Although record quantities are being distributed during the flush production season, there are even now some areas in which the supply does not completely meet the unprecedented demand. The demand for fluid milk and cream is expected to remain very high throughout 1946, and consumption may reach a new high for the sixth year in succession. Ice cream supplies this spring and summer are considerably above those available last year, but the demand still exceeds the supply. The production of ice cream is somewhat limited by the supply of sugar. Even if restrictions are placed on the use of butterfat for ice cream, the production of ice cream this year may be almost double the average rate for 1935-39 and at least 10 percent above 1945. Heavy consumption of cottage cheese, chocolate drinks, buttermilk, and dried skim milk is expected to continue this year.

Fats and Oils

Civilian supplies of fats and oils are expected to continue short for the balance of the year 1946. On a per capita basis and including the actual weight of butter, civilian supplies of fats and oils may average around 41 pounds for the year 1946 compared with 42 pounds in 1945. Important factors in the low level of civilian supplies are the reduced production of butter, continued heavy exports of lard, and smaller production of cottonseed oil.

Output of creamery butter has been running about one-third less than that of comparable months in 1945. The total production of butter in 1946 probably will be substantially smaller than in 1945. This will result in smaller supplies per capita of butter for civilian consumption than last year when the average rate of consumption was about 11 pounds. The decrease in the production of creamery butter will offset the sharp reduction in military procurement and other Government procurement of butter.

Civilian per capita supplies of lard in 1946 are expected to be about the same as the 12 pounds consumed per capita in 1945. Lard production in 1945 has been officially estimated at 2,132 million pounds. Output for 1946 is forecast at close to 2,400 million pounds. The increase in production and major decreases in military procurement and non-food use this year are about offset by the reduction of more than 300 million pounds in the stocks on hand on January 1, 1946 compared with a year earlier and by the increase in civilian population due to demobilization of the armed forces. Under present plans, lard exports in 1946 will be approximately as large as in 1945 when a total of 630 million pounds was shipped., The procurement of lard for export has been stepped up and it now appears that about 300 million pounds will be exported in the January-June period.

Under present quotas for the use of oils by manufacturers in the production of the individual items, reductions in civilian supplies per capita are indicated both for margarine and for shortening and other edible oils. The combined output of cottonseed, corn, soybean, and peanut oils probably will be substantially smaller this year than last, principally because of the small crop of cottonseed in 1945. Present allocations indicate a moderately smaller export of vegetable oils and their products in 1946 than in 1945.

Fruit

Per capita civilian supplies of fruit are expected under average growing conditions to be much the same this year as last. For the year as a whole, fresh and canned fruit supplies are not expected to differ much from 1945, but somewhat larger quantities of frozen fruits and canned fruit juices will be available for civilian consumption. During the rest of the spring and summer, supplies of fresh deciduous fruits will increase seasonally in both variety and quantity. The marketing of fresh strawberries will reach the seasonal peak in May. The supply is expected to be considerably greater than last year, but still far short of demand. By late May or early June, cherries, apricots, peaches, and plums from the new crops should be moving to market in increasing volume. Supplies of new crop apples, pears, and grapes are expected by late June or early July. Although the deciduous trees and vines came through the winter in excellent condition, the usual hazards of weather and pests still confront the new crops.

Fairly large supplies of oranges from the 1945-46 crop in Florida and California are available this spring. During the summer months the principal supply will be from the California crop of Valencia oranges. This crop is now expected to be one-fourth smaller than the record large one of last summer. However, civilian supplies may be almost as large as last year because of the reduction in procurement for the armed forces. Supplies of Florida grapefruit are much larger this spring than last, but by summer the total will become seasonally quite small. Lemons are relatively plentiful again this spring and summer.

Civilian supplies of frozen fruits and canned fruit juices are indicated somewhat larger than in 1945. Even so, some fruit juices and most canned fruits will continue quite short of demand, at least until the new packs become available this summer. Citrus juices will remain plentiful. The pack of processed deciduous fruits depends upon the size of the crops and the relative prices for different uses. If the 1946 crops are about as large as average, some increase in the pack of canned fruits compared with 1945 appears probable. With the sharp reduction in military procurement of canned fruits, civilians will receive considerably larger supplies in total from the 1946-47 pack than from the previous one although about the same per person. The 1945 pack of frozen fruits set a new record and civilian consumption reached 2.4 pounds per capita. Further increases appear likely this year. .

Vegetables

The total supply of vegetables, including fresh and processed, for civilian consumption in 1946 probably will approximate that of 1945.on a per person basis although it will be larger in the aggregate. The demand for vegetables this year is continuing at a high level because of substantial purchasing power in the hands of consumers and the emphasis on the conservation of other foods.

If growers increase acreages planted as they have in the past 2 years and if yields are good, supplies of farm and commercially produced fresh vegetables in 1946 migh reach or even exceed last year's record. In addition to these supplies, many consumers will have the fresh produce of their own gardens. Although truck crop production for fresh market during the winter season was about 6 percent below last winter, the outlook is for larger supplies this spring and summer than last. Estimates indicate 10 percent larger spring production than last year. With a favorable outlook for prices, it is expected that efforts will be made to increase acreage and production for the later seasons.

Civilian supplies of canned vegetables from the 1945 pack reached a new record of over 40 pounds per capita. With much smaller military procurement, civilian supplies during 1946-47 are likely to be larger in total, but about the same per capita.

The 1945 pack of frozen vegetables, estimated at about 308 million pounds, was 29 percent above that of the previous year. This year's pack of frozen vegetables probably will increase still more, and civilian consumption may reach a new record of around 2 pounds per capita.

Supplies of potatoes have been ample so far this year and prices have remained at moderate levels. If 1946 production of potatoes should total 390 to 400 million bushels, civilian per capita consumption this calendar year would equal the 1945 average of 130 pounds, in spite of large exports and purchases for use of the armed forces.

Sweetpotato supplies have been smaller for some time than consumer demand at ceiling prices. In fact, consumption in 1945 averaged about one-fifth below the pre-war rate of 23.6 pounds. The supplies of sweetpotatoes are expected to continue short unless a greater acreage is planted this spring than was indicated by farmers' intentions on March 1, or unless the yields from the intended acreage should turn out to be unusually large.

Because of last year's small crop of dry beans and substantial exports, civilian supplies of dry beans have been relatively short so far this year. The expected short crop in 1946 and substantial exports probably will result in the continuation of short civilian supplies. In contrast, the supplies of dry peas appear to have been sufficient to meet civilian demand. If yields this year approximate the recent 5-year average and if as large an acreage is planted as was intended on March 1, the 1946 production of dry peas will be only slightly smaller than last year. Such production would permit substantial exports again this year and still provide civilians with per capita supplies much larger than those consumed on the average in the period 1935-39.

Food Grains

Domestic supplies of food grain products will be short of consumer demand during the next 3 or 4 months because of the rush of exports to meet the famine emergency in Europe. However, substantial quantities of grains from this year's wheat harvest will be milled in July and will be in civilian distribution channels by the latter part of the month.

Purchases of grain for export in the first 3 months of the year were proportionally less than necessary to meet the goal of 225 million bushels for the January-June period, despite the voluntary conservation program and other emergency measures. Therefore, the Department of Agriculture announced on April 19 that it would pay a bonus of 30 cents per bushel on all wheat delivered under the wheat certificate plan before May 25. Furthermore, under an amendment to War Food Order 144, effective April 1 the milling of flour for domestic distribution is restricted to 75 percent of the quantity processed for distribution in the comparable months of 1945. The use of wheat by food manufacturers in edible products for domestic human consumption is also limited to 75 percent of thatt used in the same months of 1945.

About 100 million bushels of wheat out of the goal of 225 million for January-June export were shipped in the first 3 months of 1946 and as the end of the 1945-46 marketing year approaches, supplies for export and processing become smaller. The new restriction and bonus program may yield substantial results, but wheat stocks in all positions on April 1 totaled only 339 million bushels, of which 204 million were on farms. Seed for spring wheat planting and some feeding may take about 50 million bushels. Stocks on July 1 may be brought down to less than 100 million bushels under the new program. This would leave only 189 million bushels for domestic food and export in April-June quarter. Even with use and inventory restrictions and bonus payments, it will be very difficult to obtain the 125 million bushels needed to meet the export goal.

Some of the wheat moving from this country in June will not reach European countries until July, but the relief need for food in Europe will be acute in some areas as late as the end of August. The new crops in much of Europe will not be harvested until late July and August and it takes time to mill and distribute the grain products. The current grain shortage in the southernmost areas where grain will be harvested in June and early July is so great that it is unlikely that much of the new crop will be exported from the producing countries. Most sections of Europe, particularly France, Spain and Italy, report satisfactory conditions for wheat crops, with early prospects for a crop above 1945. However rains are now needed in southeastern Europe. Prospects in North Africa are reported as generally favorable, especiall in Morocco and Algeria, although the acreage is down. Good crops in these Mediterranean countries would greatly reduce the gap between import needs for Europe and available supplies in 1946-47 compared with 1945-46.

In spite of the present prospects for increased grain production in Europe and North Africa this year, the import needs are expected to continue at a high level. The total European requirements for grain and other foods from domestic production and imports will be higher in 1946-47 than the low rate of consumption in 1945-46 in order to begin the long process of rebuilding the health and efficiency of the people suffering from cumulative malnutrition.

The outlook for this year's wheat crop in the United States is again favorable. According to the April crop report, a total 1946 seeded acreage of all wheat of 70.9 million acres is indicated, which is an increase of 3 percent over last year and the largest acreage seeded since 1938. If the prospective spring wheat acreage is seeded and yields are equal to the average for the years 1937-44, by States, a spring wheat crop of 257 million bushels would be produced, which, with a winter wheat crop indicated as of April 1 at 831 million bushels, would result in a total production of 1,088 million bushels. This would be second only to the 1,123 million bushels produced in 1945.

Stocks of rye on April 1, 1946 were estimated at 7.8 million bushels -- the smallest for that date in the 6-year period that records have been kept. The short supply will restrict the use of rye for feed and alcohol, limit the quantity available for flour this quarter, and leave only a very small carry-over on July 1. Indications are that the 1946 crop will be even smaller than last year's and will curtail the use of rye for feed, alcohol, and exports in 1946.

More rice has moved into civilian distribution channels this year than was expected. Accordingly, civilian consumption per capita from the 1945-46 crop may approximate the 5 1/2 pound rate of 1944-45. Such disappearance into civilian distribution has limited the quantity exported so that total exports and shipments from the 1945 crop of 70.2 million bushels may not exceed the equivalent of 31 million bushels. The demand for rice in the Far East is very great and will remain strong throughout the next rice marketing year. Prospective rice acreage is about 4 percent larger than last year's record planted acreage. With average growing weather, production may set another new record of 73 million bushels.

Supplies of corn products for domestic use will be relatively short until at least next winter. A substantial part of the corn that will be marketed from last year's crop has already moved into distribution channels. The 30 cent per bushel bonus above ceiling prices being offered by the Department of Agriculture for 50 million bushels of corn of the best grades, primarily for export, will reduce the amount of grain available for the manufacture of corn starch, sugar, sirup, meal, etc., for domestic use. Some refiners have good stocks on hand but further purchases of corn cannot be made by them if their inventories exceed 45 days' supply.

Record stocks of oats for April 1 were on hand this year, despite very large marketings since last fall's harvest. Per capita consumption of oatmeal will continue above the average of 3.9 pounds consumed in 1935-39.

No restrictions have been placed on the use of barley for malt. During recent years the use of barley for malt has amounted to nearly a 100 million bushels per year. Supplies of barley food products are expected to be adequate to fill consumer demand.

Sugar

Current sugar supplies are increasing over the very low supplies of the winter months. During the summer, they may be slightly larger than in the summer of 1945. Despite higher world sugar production in 1946 than in 1945, principally in the Caribbean area, U. S. civilian supplies per capita will be about the same as the average of 73 pounds consumed in 1945. Last year, world sugar stocks were decreased by 1.4 million tons to supplement current production. This year world stocks are so low that practically all supplies must come from current production.

Table 5.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary indications for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	Prel. indication for 1946	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
Meats (dressed weight) ..								
Beef	Mil.lb.	6,936	8,523	9,135	10,157	9,800	141	96
Veal	" "	1,038	1,160	1,596	1,635	1,600	154	98
Lamb and mutton	" "	871	1,104	1,023	1,053	1,000	115	95
Pork (excluding lard) ..	" "	7,337	13,349	12,916	10,046	10,300	140	103
Total meats	" "	16,182	24,136	24,670	22,891	22,700	140	99
Poultry and Eggs								
Eggs	Mil.doz	3,335	4,972	5,305	5,062	5,050	151	100
Chicken (dressed weight)	Mil.lb.	2,325	3,804	3,468	3,700	3,350	144	91
Turkey (dressed weight)	" "	350	466	552	680	600	171	88
Dairy Products								
Total milk 2/	" "	103,656	117,687	118,504	121,714	118,500	114	97
Cheese 3/	" "	669	993	1,016	1,115	1,010	151	91
Cond. and evap. milk ..	" "	2,225	3,343	3,750	4,107	3,085	139	75
Fluid milk and cream 4/	" "	44,146	53,925	56,346	58,428	63,600	144	109
Fats and Oils 5/								
Butter, farm & factory.	" "	2,170	2,015	1,818	1,706	1,450	67	85
Lard 6/	" "	1,624	2,884	2,939	2,075	2,360	145	114
Margarine (fat content)	" "	303	500	479	499	420	139	84
Shortening	" "	1,529	1,438	1,364	1,449)	2,265	108	94
Other edible fats and oils 7/	" "	575	1,272	1,123	954)			
Total fats and oils	" "	6,201	8,109	7,735	6,683	6,495	105	97
Fruits								
Fresh:								
Citrus	" "	6,870	8,838	10,069	9,974	10,050	146	101
Apples (commercial) .	" "	4,384	3,107	4,181	2,421)	8,875	96	112
Other (excl. melons).	" "	4,847	3,568	5,054	5,474)			
Processed:	" "							
Canned fruit	" "	1,702	1,587	2,087	1,898	1,950	115	103
Canned fruit juices .	" "	321	1,390	1,606	1,760	1,760	548	100
Frozen	" "	106	214	341	452	500	472	111
Dried	" "	1,111	1,339	1,139	1,014	(1,000 (-1,100	95	104

--Continued

Table 5.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary indications for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/ --Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	Prel. indication for 1946	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
Vegetables								
Fresh 8/	Mil.lb.	30,498	31,672	34,402	36,137	37,000	121	102
Canned 9/	" "	4,084	6,236	6,373	6,638	6,650	163	100
Frozen	" "	10/ 78	223	238	308	325	417	106
Potatoes	Mil.bu.	355	465	383	425	390-400	(110 (-113	(92 (-94
Sweetpotatoes	" "	68	73	71	67	65	96	97
Dry edible beans 11/	Mil.lb.	1,361	1,935	1,497	1,231	1,500	110	122
Dry field peas 11/	" "	230	1,000	803	507	500	217	99
Canned soups	" "	684	675	890	977	1,075	157	110
Canned baby foods	" "	48	234	306	390	400	833	103
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 sh.tons	1,948	1,531	1,512	1,600	1,950	100	122
Grains								
Wheat	Mil.bu.	759	841	1,072	1,123	1,088	143	97
Rye	" "	44.9	30.5	25.5	26.4	22.0	49	83
Rice	" "	49.8	64.8	68.2	70.2	73.0	147	104
Corn	" "	2,316	3,034	3,203	3,018	3,097	134	103
Oats	" "	1,045	1,138	1,155	1,548	1,392	133	90
Barley	" "	239	324	279	264	247	103	94
Peanuts	Mil.lb.	1,229	2,185	2,111	2,080	n.a.	--	--

1/ Calendar year basis except for fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year; canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis. Potatoes and sweetpotatoes are now on the calendar year basis too. 2/ The production of total milk for human consumption differs from total farm production of milk in that the former excludes milk fed to calves but includes off-farm production while the latter excludes off-farm production but includes milk fed to calves. Milk fed to calves and milk produced off farms are usually of approximately equal volume. 3/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese. 4/ Fluid milk equivalent for fresh use. 5/ Fat content basis except for butter which is on an actual weight basis. 6/ Excluding amount used in manufactured products. 7/ Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products and other minor uses such as fish canning. 8/ Estimates of all vegetables and melons other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production. 9/ Includes asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk), peas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, tomatoes, tomato pulp, and tomato juice, tomato sauce, paste, and catsup, and chili sauce, mixed vegetables. 10/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 11/ Cleaned basis.

Table 6. - Retail food prices and total consumer price index, United States, 1935-43 and 1944-46 by months
(Index numbers 1935-39 = 100)

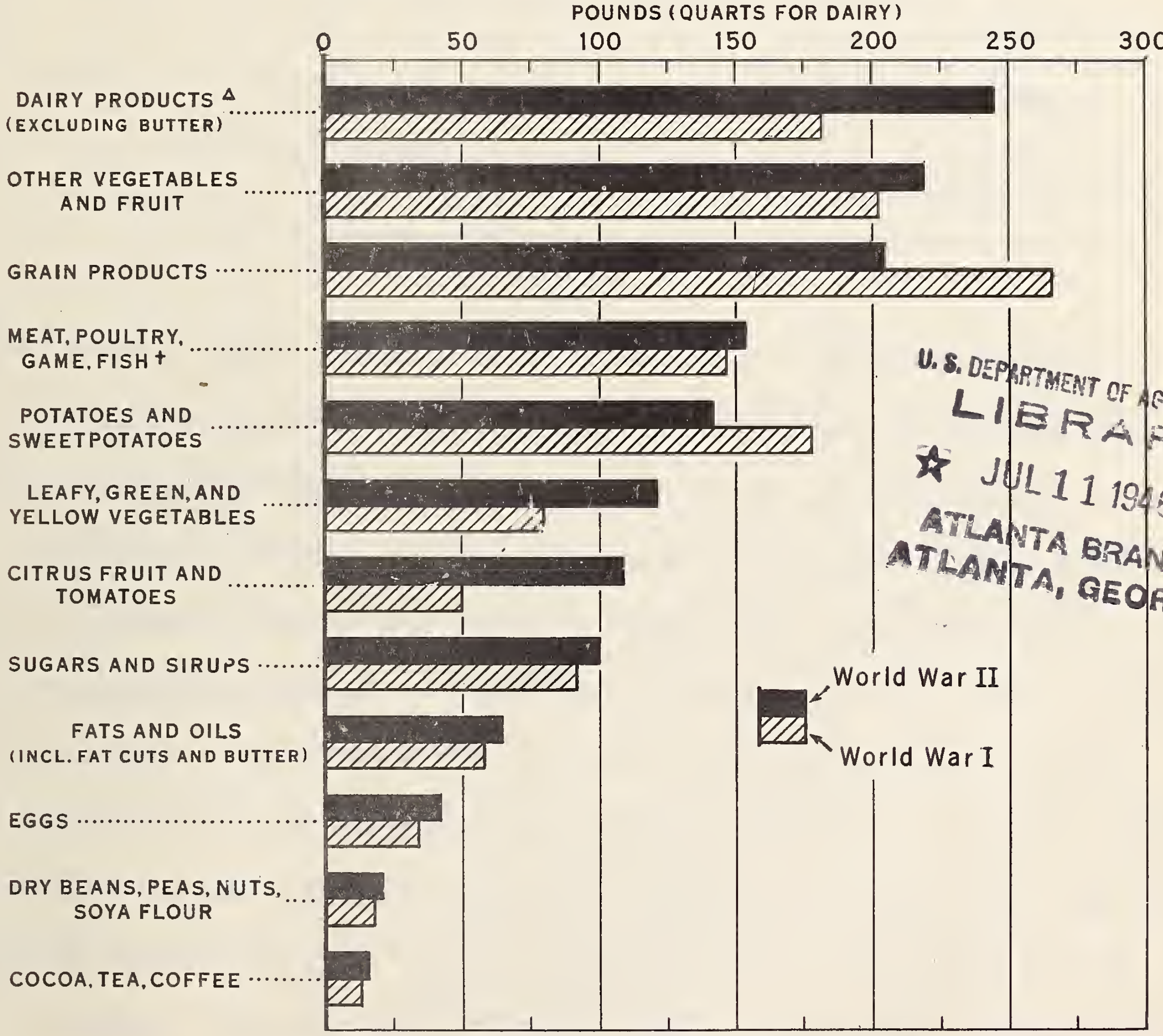
Year and month	Meats	Eggs	Dairy products	Fats and oils	Cereals and bakery products	Fruit and vegetables: Fresh	Fruit and vegetables: Canned	Fruit and vegetables: Dried	Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Consumer price index
1935	100	104	98	110	102	99	106	101	101	104	100	98
1936	99	103	102	103	101	106	101	97	100	99	101	99
1937	106	101	105	106	103	109	103	116	101	104	105	103
1938	99	100	100	94	100	92	97	93	98	98	98	101
1939	97	91	96	88	94	95	92	93	101	96	95	99
1940	96	94	101	82	97	97	92	101	97	92	97	100
1941	108	112	112	94	98	104	98	107	106	102	106	105
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	126	122	124	117
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
1944	130	153	134	123	108	168	130	166	126	124	136	126
Jan.	131	154	134	124	108	175	130	163	127	124	136	124
Feb.	130	143	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
March	131	135	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
Apr.	130	128	134	124	108	178	130	163	127	124	135	125
May	130	127	134	123	108	183	129	164	126	124	136	125
June	130	129	134	123	108	185	129	164	126	124	136	125
July	129	149	134	123	109	188	129	165	127	124	137	126
Aug.	129	159	134	123	108	187	129	165	126	124	138	126
Sept.	129	158	134	123	109	179	129	165	126	124	137	126
Oct.	129	179	134	123	109	170	130	166	126	124	136	126
Nov.	130	187	134	123	109	168	130	166	126	124	136	126
Dec.	130	188	134	123	109	164	130	166	126	124	137	127
1945	131	164	134	124	109	188	130	168	126	125	139	128
Jan.	130	170	134	123	109	178	130	167	126	124	137	127
Feb.	131	153	134	124	109	178	130	167	126	124	136	127
Mar.	131	141	134	124	109	179	130	167	126	124	136	127
Apr.	131	140	134	124	109	183	130	168	126	125	137	127
May	132	141	134	124	109	195	130	169	127	125	139	128
June	132	145	133	124	109	208	130	169	126	125	141	129
July	132	157	133	124	109	207	130	169	126	125	142	129
Aug.	132	171	133	124	109	196	130	169	127	125	141	129
Sept.	132	184	133	124	109	182	130	169	126	125	139	129
Oct.	131	186	133	124	109	182	130	169	126	125	139	129
Nov.	131	192	136	124	109	182	131	168	126	125	140	129
Dec.	131	193	136	125	109	188	130	169	127	125	141	130
1946												
Jan.	131	172	136	126	109	193	130	169	126	125	141	130
Feb.	131	144	137	125	110	193	131	170	127	125	140	130
Mar.	131	139	137	126	110	196	130	169	132	125	140	130

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NFS - 34
BAE
MAY - JUNE 1946

PER CAPITA FOOD CONSUMPTION DURING WORLD WARS I AND II, BY MAJOR FOOD GROUPS, RETAIL WEIGHTS*



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* *CIVILIAN ONLY IN 1942-45, AVERAGE FOR TOTAL POPULATION IN 1917-18*
▵ *MILK EQUIVALENT ON BASIS OF PROTEIN AND MINERAL CONTENT*
† *EXCLUDING FAT PORK CUTS*

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 46031 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Per capita food consumption was higher during World War II for all food groups, except potatoes, sweet potatoes and grain products, than during World War I. Smaller consumption of these foods in 1942-45 largely reflected long-time downward trends. The per capita consumption of citrus fruit, tomatoes, green and yellow vegetables and dairy products, excluding butter, was much larger in World War II than in World War I. These increases and the enrichment of wheat flour materially improved the nutrient content of the average diet in the years 1942-45 compared with 1917-18.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, June 28, 1946

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SUMMARY

Civilian supplies of a number of foods -- meats, fats, cheese, butter, evaporated milk, canned and dried fruit, sugar and many cereal products -- will be insufficient to satisfy consumer demand during the summer at current prices. Supplies of other foods will be relatively plentiful. These include fluid milk, eggs, poultry, fresh fruits and vegetables, potatoes, frozen foods, fresh and frozen fish, and canned vegetables.

Despite the fact that many foods are short relative to demand at present prices, over-all food supplies per person are much larger than prewar and will be generally higher this summer than they were a year ago. This will be true of meat, fluid milk and cream, ice cream, cheese, poultry, apples, bananas, frozen fruit, fresh vegetables and potatoes. Supplies of eggs, sugar and fresh deciduous fruits other than apples and bananas will be about the same this summer as last. The only major items for which supplies are expected to fall below those of last summer are fats, fresh citrus fruit and cereal products.

An upward movement of food prices would have no appreciable effect upon the total quantity of food available this year. Neither would it be likely to have much effect on food supplies for civilians, unless the advance should be so great as to result in a sharp contraction of exports. However, increased food prices would tend to change the distribution of available food supplies both geographically and among income groups. Changes in the relative prices of various foods would increase supplies of some item at the expense of others during the next year or two. This would be particularly true of those products such as--meat, poultry, milk and cereal products--which are in direct competition for the limited grain supplies.

Comparison of food consumption in the United States during World War II with that during World War I indicates that civilian consumption per person averaged 10 to 15 percent higher in 1942-45 than in 1917-18. The average diet during World War II was also much better from the standpoint of nutritive content than it was in 1917-18.

Continental Europe is passing through a serious food crisis. Ususually adverse weather, coupled with war-caused dislocations of agriculture, cut production in 1945-46 to the lowest point in many years, and, taking continental Europe as a whole, consumption in 1945-46 fell to around 80 percent of prewar. Although food production in continental Europe in 1946-47 is expected to improve over 1945-46, any real improvement in consumption is dependent upon maintenance of food imports close to the level of 1945-46.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meat

Supplies of meat for civilian consumption this summer will continue quite short of consumer demand at present ceiling prices. If the general level of food prices were to rise only moderately and controls on meat prices were removed, retail meat prices might be expected to rise sharply for a few weeks. By fall, when production increases seasonally, retail prices would be likely to settle to an average perhaps 15 to 20 percent above present ceilings. If subsidies to processors are removed, a substantial increase in retail prices would be necessary before any increase would be received by farmers. With tight feed supplies, meat production would not increase much from the rate expected under present prices.

The principal result of higher meat prices would probably be changes in the distribution of meat supplies--from non-inspected to federally inspected slaughterers, from lower income families to higher income families.

Meat supplies for civilian consumption were very large, even on a per capita basis, during the winter and spring. Production was at a near record rate, while military procurement was quite small because of accumulated stocks and demobilization. Government procurement for export stepped up considerably in the past three or four months. Although Government procurement takes a large proportion of federally inspected meats, the only meats that can move in interstate commerce it represents a much smaller proportion of total meat supplies. Current Government purchases are far less than the amounts purchase during the spring and summer of 1945. If uncertainties over price ceilings are cleared up, marketings of livestock and meats will be restored to a more nearly normal pattern, and is probable that civilian per capita meat supplies will again be large when compared with prewar averages although much less than demand at present prices.

Total meat production through May continued close to that of 1945 and is expected to be maintained at a relatively high level through the remainder of the year. Production of meat in 1945 was estimated at 22.9 billion pounds (wholesale dressed weight), a decline of 1.8 billion pounds from the record production of 1944. Meat production is declining as indicated by the expected 17 percent reduction in the 1946 fall pig crop from a year earlier, a sharp reduction in sheep numbers, and a moderate reduction in cattle feeding compared with a year ago. The decline in meat production will be more marked in the spring and summer of 1947 when fall pigs from the 1946 crop are marketed.

Hog slaughter will decline seasonally during the summer when the number slaughtered may be little different from a year ago. Federally inspected hog slaughter in the first 5 months of 1946 was 15 percent greater than a year earlier as the result of delayed marketings of 1945 spring pigs and a 12 percent increase from a year earlier in the size of the 1945 fall pig crop. The 1946 spring pig crop, which will begin moving to market in October, was reported to be 1-1/2 percent greater than the 51.6 million head saved in 1945. If the hog-feed price ratio continues below average, the 1946 spring pig crop will be marketed earlier than the 1945 spring crop, with a relatively large hog slaughter occurring in the fourth quarter of 1946.

Beef and veal supplies will be large. Cattle slaughter in the remainde of 1946 promises to be large, as numbers on farms are only moderately less than a year earlier. A larger proportion of the beef produced will be of the lower grades, as the number of cattle in feedlots is materially smaller than a year earlier. The condition of pastures is good to excellent except in a limited drought area in the Southwest. If pasture continues in good condition, a large movement of grass cattle to market can be expected beginning in late summer.

Lamb and mutton production in recent weeks has fallen below a year earlier, and supplies for civilians will be smaller throughout the remainder of the year than in 1945. Fewer lambs were raised this year. The early spring lamb crop was reported to be 13 percent less than in 1945 and the report on the late crop also is expected to show a decrease.

Poultry and Eggs

Supplies of eggs for civilian consumption are expected to be adequate to meet continued heavy civilian demand for the rest of the summer. The supply of eggs for civilian consumption in the latter part of 1946 will be only slightly below the level of the first part of the year. Demand for eggs is expected to continue strong because of prospective short meat supplies. By fall, supplies will be somewhat reduced by the seasonal decline in egg production and the effects of the tight feed situation, as well as the unfavorable egg-feed price relationship. The number of hens on farms is expected to decline more than seasonally. So far, egg production per hen has been at record levels. Stocks of eggs, both frozen and shell, in cold storage are very large. Military procurement is relatively small. The procurement of eggs for drying to fill export contracts has been nearly completed.

A larger proportion of young chickens probably will be marketed early because of the smaller late hatch. These early marketings and record stocks of poultry in cold storage should make poultry relatively plentiful during the next few months.

Dairy Products

The civilian consumption of fluid milk and cream and ice cream has reached a new high level. On the other hand, the civilian supplies of many manufactured dairy products have been quite low despite high milk production on farms. Total milk production recently has been only 1 percent below a year ago, as good pasture conditions have offset the effects of the tight feed situation and average milk production per cow has set a new record. Although the number of milk cows on farms is smaller, a greater percentage of them are being milked. The seasonal decline in milk production has begun and will continue until November. This will result in reduced supplies of some dairy products.

Recent government actions are expected to affect the end products into which the available milk supply goes during the next few months. There will probably be little change in the relative position of fluid milk as a result of the recent upward adjustment in prices. The sale of whipping cream is prohibited beginning July 1, and butterfat content of all other cream is limited to 19 percent. These restrictions are the same as those in effect during the war. Ice cream manufacturers may reduce the butterfat content of ice cream by about 15 percent without reducing prices, but no increase is permitted in the total gallons of ice cream produced. Ice cream manufacture in the January-March quarter was 95 percent larger than a year earlier, and a high level of production has continued during the spring and early summer. The production of condensed milk and whole milk cheese other than American has been maintained, but the production of other manufactured dairy products has fallen considerably below the level of comparable months of 1945. Butter production in April and

May averaged 28 percent less than in 1945; evaporated milk, 22 percent; American cheese, 19 percent. The recent price increase for butter, cheese and evaporated milk will have some effect on the relative quantities of those products bing manufactured, but the restrictions on the use of butterfat in cream and the reduction in the use in ice cream may have a greater effect. Even so, the supplies of butter and cheese are expected to continue short of demand for some time.

The shortage of feed grains is not expected to affect milk production very much under the present relationships among milk, livestock and feed prices. Good pastures are available to tide milk production over the period of acute grain shortage, and the recent adjustment in prices of dairy products will strengthen the relative position of dairymen in getting feed later on in the year unless the price structure should be changed again.

Fats and Oils

Civilian supplies of food fats and oils during the summer probably will total slightly less, per person, than a year earlier. Per capita supplies of lard, shortening, and oils combined are likely to be about the same as last summer when supplies were comparatively small. Supplies of butter and margarine may be 5 to 10 percent smaller. Supplies of fat cuts of pork also are likely to be smaller than a year ago.

Output of lard in federally inspected plants in the first 5 months of 1946, at 631 million pounds, was 14 percent larger than a year earlier. However, procurement of lard for export is materially larger this year than last when much of it was taken out of Government stocks on hand at the beginning of the year.

Quotas for the use of fats and oils in the manufacture of civilian shortening and edible oils in July-September this year are 88 percent of base period use (average use on 1940 and 1941). This represents an increase of 10 percent over the quota for July-September last year. However, civilian population has increased nearly 10 percent since the summer of 1945. The limit on use of fats and oils in margarine for civilians in July-September is the same as in July-September last year so margarine will continue to be quite short of demand.

Creamery butter production in the first half of 1946 was 28 percent smaller than a year earlier. A partly offsetting reduction occurred in military procurement, but supplies of creamery butter remaining for civilians apparently declined about 5 percent, on a per capita basis. Output of creamery butter probably will remain low this summer. Most of the butter needed by the armed forces until next year was procured during May and June.

Fruit

Fresh dociduous fruit from the 1946 crop has been increasing in volume during June and will be generally plentiful this summer. The 1946 deciduous crop is expected to be about one-tenth larger than the 1945 crop and slightly larger than average. Most of the increase over 1945 will be due to a larger apple crop than last summer's exceptionally short one.

In early summer, fresh peaches, apricots, cherries and plums will be abundant, soon followed by seasonally large supplies of pears, prunes, grapes, and apples. The peach crop is indicated to be nearly as large as last year's record crop of 82 million bushels. The apricot and California plum crops are expected to be larger than last year and above average (1935-44). The California prune crop, used mostly for drying, is indicated to be moderately smaller than last year. There are expected to be nearly twice as many sour cherries from this year's near-average crop but slightly fewer sweet cherries than in 1945. The pear crop is indicated to be much the same as last year's good crop. Prospects on June 1 were for another large grape crop and for an apple crop slightly below average, but still much larger than the record-small last year.

Supplies of fresh oranges will be considerably smaller this summer than last. Supplies of lemons will be good although slightly smaller than last summer. Grapefruit supplies will be seasonally small. Canned grapefruit juice and other canned citrus juices will be available as alternatives for fresh fruit.

More bananas are expected to be on the market this summer than last, but still less than prewar. Supplies are considerably below demand at current prices. Imports have been increasing seasonally this spring because of some restoration of plantations in exporting countries, and substantial improvement in shipping facilities.

Stocks of canned deciduous fruits at the beginning of the 1946-47 packing season, which is just getting under way, are the lowest in several years. Supplies from this season's pack, which probably will be moderately larger than the pack of last season, will reach consumers in increasing volume from midsummer on. Storage stocks of frozen fruits continue at a high level, but stocks of dried fruits, especially raisins, are low and new supplies will not become available in large amounts until fall.

Vegetables

A plentiful supply of fresh vegetables and new potatoes will be available this summer at prices averaging somewhat lower than a year earlier. If production of commercial truck crops for fresh market shipment in July, August, and September measures up to the increases in acreage and early reports on production, total production will be about 1/5 larger than last summer's large volume. Particularly large increases in production are indicated for cantaloups green peppers, onions, watermelons, and celery.

The early commercial crop of potatoes produced this year was by far the largest on record. A large proportion of it has already moved to market, making plentiful supplies available at reasonable prices. Harvest from later areas in the early commercial group of States will assure ample supplies until potatoes begin moving in volume from intermediate and late States.

Some sweetpotatoes from the new 1946 crop have already been shipped. They are selling at ceiling prices and are expected to remain there for at least another two months. Although official estimates of production of the 1946 sweetpotato crop have not been made, the crop will be short of demand if the planting intentions expressed by farmers in March are carried out and average yields are produced this year.

Food Grains

Domestic supplies of cereal products will be short of consumer demand during the next few months. If price controls should be removed, prices would rise sharply. However, such price rises would not increase total available supplies, and present shortages in terms of fundamental needs will continue throughout the 1946-47 marketing year because of the continued necessity for large wheat and rice exports to meet the food emergency in Europe and the Orient.

A wheat crop of 1,033 million bushels is indicated in latest reports on condition and estimated acreage. Although this would be the fourth billion bushe crop, it will be necessary to curtail domestic use of wheat if the announced export program of 250 million bushels is to be met. The volume of stocks available supplement current U.S. production are not as large as they were in 1945-46.

The Department of Agriculture has announced the wheat program for 1946-47 It is designed to spread civilian supplies over the year and to avoid crises such as have been experienced during the past few weeks. In order to procure the 250 million bushels of wheat for export from the U. S. in 1946-47, a set-aside program was instituted on May 24. This requires producers in important States to sell immediately at least one-half of the milling wheat which they deliver to a handler or processor. Then the receivers must set aside for delivery to the CCC at least half of their purchases of the milling wheat. Beginning July 1, the quantity of wheat flour which may be milled for domestic consumption is restricte to 85 percent of the 1945 monthly average as compared with the 75-percent restriction in effect from April 1 to June 30. This will result in a substantial increase in the domestic supplies of flour over recent weeks when many mills were unable to obtain enough wheat to grind up to their 75 percent restriction. Because of the higher extraction rate in effect this year, the decline in the domestic food use of wheat will be somewhat greater than the decline in domestic flour consumption although both will be the lowest in over a quarter of a century

The supply of rye for domestic food consumption is expected to be smaller this year. The total amount of rye available for all uses in 1946-47 will be limited to the new crop which was indicated as of June 1 to be 20.8 million bushels. The carry-over on July 1, 1946 will be so small that no further reduction in stocks is probable. Because of the heavy demand for rye by Northern European countries, supplies for importation into the U. S. are likely to be negligible.

In March prospective rice acreage was indicated at about 4 percent larger than last year's record planted acreage. With average growing weather, production may set another new record of 73 million bushels. However, the demand for rice in the Far East is so great that it will absorb all of the rice which can be exported from this country throughout the next rice marketing year.

FOOD CONSUMPTION IN THE UNITED STATES DURING WORLD WARS I AND II [1]

Per capita food consumption in the United States during World War II has averaged materially higher than in World War I. Both on the basis of an index using fixed 1935-39 prices as weights, and in poundage terms, consumption per civilian in 1942-45 average 10 to 15 percent higher than the average for the whole population in 1917-18.[2] From the standpoint of nutritive content also, the average diet was much better in the recent period than in 1917-18. The daily supply of food energy (calories) and of protein averaged approximately the same in the two periods. The fat content was up 11 percent in 1942-45 over the 1917-18 supply, but the carbohydrate supply was 8 percent smaller. The average daily supply of iron was 13 percent higher in World War II than in World War I. The calcium content of the average diet increased about 27 percent, largely due to the greater consumption of fluid milk and of whole and skim milk products. The five principal vitamins increased between 14 and 30 percent. The contribution of the various food groups to these changes in the nutrient content of the diet reflect wheat flour enrichment and long-time trends in food consumption such as the decrease in the consumption of potatoes and grain products, and increased consumption of dairy products other than butter, leafy, green, and yellow vegetables, and citrus fruits.

The index of per capita food consumption averaged 96 in 1917-18, and 109 in 1942-45. This index reflects to some extent the preference for various foods because all foods are combined by means of average retail prices in 1935-39. The indexes for the major food groups are given in Table 1. The principal increases in food consumption in World War II over World War I were in dairy products, eggs, fruits (where most of the increase occurred before 1940), and vegetables. The indexes of food consumption indicate the downward trend in potato consumption and in grain products. The consumption of grain products during the recent war was slightly higher than in 1935-39, but this was probably only a temporary reversal of the downward trend.

The average consumption of food by major groups is shown in terms of physical quantity in Table 2. The groupings are those often used in planning and analyzing diets and all data have been converted to a retail weight basis.

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[1] Data taken from Nutritive Value of the Per Capita Food Supply, 1909-45, by Faith Clark and Berta Friend, Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, and by Marguerite C. Burk assisted by Selma Schweitzer, Lois N. Shores and other staff members, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

[2] Per capita data for 1917-18 are based on averages for the whole population whereas data for 1942-45 include only civilian consumption. Information on military takings in World War I is not available for deriving civilian consumption from total domestic consumption. However, military use of food was much less important in World War I than in World War II. Food supplies per man were smaller, substantial quantities were procured abroad, and the number in the armed forces in World War I was a much smaller proportion of the total population, about 3 percent on July 1, 1918, compared with almost 10 percent on July 1, 1945. The data on per capita food consumption in 1917-18 are well in line with those for years immediately before and after the war.

Table 1.- Indexes of per capita consumption of foods, by major food groups, World Wars I and II 1/

Year	Total	Dairy products: Including butter	Dairy products: Excluding butter	Meats, poultry fish	Eggs	Potatoes and sweet-potatoes	Beans, peas, nuts	Fats and oils: Including butter	Fats and oils: Excluding butter	Grain products
World War II as percent of World War I										
	114	130	142	107	125	79	115	103	112	84
Index: 1935-39 = 100										
Av. World War I	96	86	86	106	94	124	101	95	98	128
Av. World War II	109	112	122	113	117	98	116	98	110	107
1917	96	87	85	104	94	118	105	96	96	136
1918	95	85	86	109	95	131	97	94	101	119
1942	107	112	117	110	104	96	111	99	102	105
1943	106	109	119	111	116	101	119	100	117	108
1944	111	113	124	116	117	97	118	102	119	108
1945 (prel.)	112	114	126	114	130	99	117	90	104	106

Table 1. (Cont'd)

Year	Sugars and sirups	Fruits: Fresh	Fruits: Canned fruits	Fruits: Canned juices	Fruits: Dried	Fruits: Total	Vegetables: Fresh	Vegetables: Canned	Vegetables: Total	Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices
World War II as percent of World War I										
	108	125	148	2,957	111	140	138	195	152	107
Index: 1935-39 = 100										
Av. World War I	88	79	50	7	92	72	78	66	75	90
Av. World War II	95	99	79	207	102	101	108	129	114	96
1917	88	82	51	7	107	75	77	60	73	94
1918	87	76	49	7	76	68	79	72	77	86
1942	100	94	105	176	80	99	109	128	114	90
1943	92	89	79	161	105	92	103	123	108	86
1944	101	105	57	244	116	104	108	116	110	102
1945 (prel.)	88	107	76	246	105	108	114	149	122	107

1/ Per capita quantities of individual foods in retail weight terms combined by means of average retail food prices 1935-39. See table 4 National Food Situation July 1944. Average for total population in 1917-1918, civilian only in 1942-45.

Table 2.- Comparison of the average quantities of foods consumed

Table 2.- Comparison of the average quantities of foods consumed per capita in World Wars I and II, retail basis 1/

Year	Dairy products excl. butter (milk equivalent) 2/	Eggs 3/	Meat, poultry game, fish 4/	Fats and oils, incl. fat cuts and butter 5/	Dry beans, peas, nuts, soya flour 6/	Potatoes and sweet-potatoes	Citrus fruit and tomatoes	Leafy, green & yellow vegetables	Other vegetables and fruit	Grain products	Sugar and sirups 7/	Cocoa coffee, tea 8/
	World War II as percent of World War I											
	135	125	105	112	117	80	218	153	108	77	109	123
	Quarts	Number	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Average, World War I.	182	270	147	58	18	178	50	80	203	266	92	13
Average, World War II.	245	337	154	65	21	142	109	122	219	205	100	16
1917	176	273	144	57	19	169	51	76	203	281	93	14
1918	188	267	150	60	18	188	48	84	202	251	92	12
1942	230	302	149	66	24	137	99	117	219	203	107	15
1943	244	334	152	67	21	146	103	116	201	208	98	14
1944	250	337	160	67	20	140	116	121	222	205	106	17
1945 (prel.)	257	374	157	60	20	143	119	134	236	204	91	18

1/ Average for entire population in 1917 and 1918, civilian only 1942-45. Estimated from per capita data as usually reported in the National Food Situation by means of average loss factors, with the addition of unpublished estimates of supplies from town and city gardens and estimates of minor food items.

2/ Milk equivalent calculated on the basis of protein and mineral content.

3/ Allows for breakage from farm to retail.

4/ Excluding bacon and other fat pork cuts. Includes offals.

5/ Actual weight basis.

6/ Nuts on an unshelled basis.

7/ Excluding duplication in dairy products, canned fruit, etc.

8/ Roasted basis for cocoa and coffee.

The comparison of consumption in the two wars is slightly different on a physical quantity basis than on a price weighted basis, as shown in Table 1. From these data, it is again apparent that the greatest increases in consumption from World War I to World War II were in citrus fruit, leafy, green, and yellow vegetables, dairy products, and eggs. The consumption of citrus fruit and tomatoes together was twice as large in 1942-45 as in 1917-18. The amount of leafy, green, and yellow vegetables consumed was half again as large. The consumption of dairy products excluding butter, is shown in terms of milk equivalent calculated on the basis of protein and mineral content, and shows an increase of one-third between the two wars. In pounds, civilian per capita potato and sweetpotato consumption, retail weight, was one-fifth less in World War II than in World War I and that of grain products one-fourth less.

The comparison of the nutrient content of the average daily diet in World Wars I and II, as shown in Table 3 and Figure 1, indicates that only the carbohydrate supply was less in the latter period than in the former. The daily supply of calories and protein was approximately equal. There were significant increases in minerals and in the five major vitamins. These are particularly important because the minerals and vitamins are considered to be the more critical elements in the average American diet. The average supply of food energy and protein is relatively high. It should be noted, however, that these averages cannot show how well nourished were the various groups in the population. They do not indicate the extent to which malnutrition was present in either period. Necessary data are not available for such an analysis, either in terms of food consumption by various groups within the population, or in terms of clinical studies of nutritive deficiencies for broad groups in the population. However, the distribution of food supplies among the various groups in the population was improved in World War II compared with World War I because of price controls, rationing and other distribution controls. Furthermore, better processing methods and enrichment contributed to improved diets for some groups in the population in World War II.

The average contribution of the major food groups to the supplies of the several nutrients is given for the years 1917 and 1918, and for 1944 and 1945 in Table 4. The increase in the consumption of dairy products from World War I to World War II raised the contribution of this group to the total protein content from 19 to 24 percent, for calories from 10 to 14 percent, and for calcium from 70 to 74 percent. The actual amounts of iron, thiamine, riboflavin, and niacin derived from the meat, poultry, game, and fish group were larger in World War II than in World War I. However, the total amount of these nutrients in the average diet increased so much that the proportion derived from the meat group of foods actually declined. The smaller consumption of butter in 1944-45 than in 1917-18 reduced the amount of vitamin A supplied by the fats and oils group.

The decrease in the consumption of potatoes and sweetpotatoes lowered the proportionate contribution of these foods to the supply of iron and of the five vitamins included in the study. The major increase in the consumption of citrus fruit and tomatoes was particularly significant for the supply of ascorbic acid. The proportion of vitamin A contributed by the leafy, green, and yellow vegetables increased from 25 percent in 1917-18 to 35 percent in 1944-45. The material decline in the consumption of grain products between World War I and World War II decreased the proportion of calories supplied by this food group from

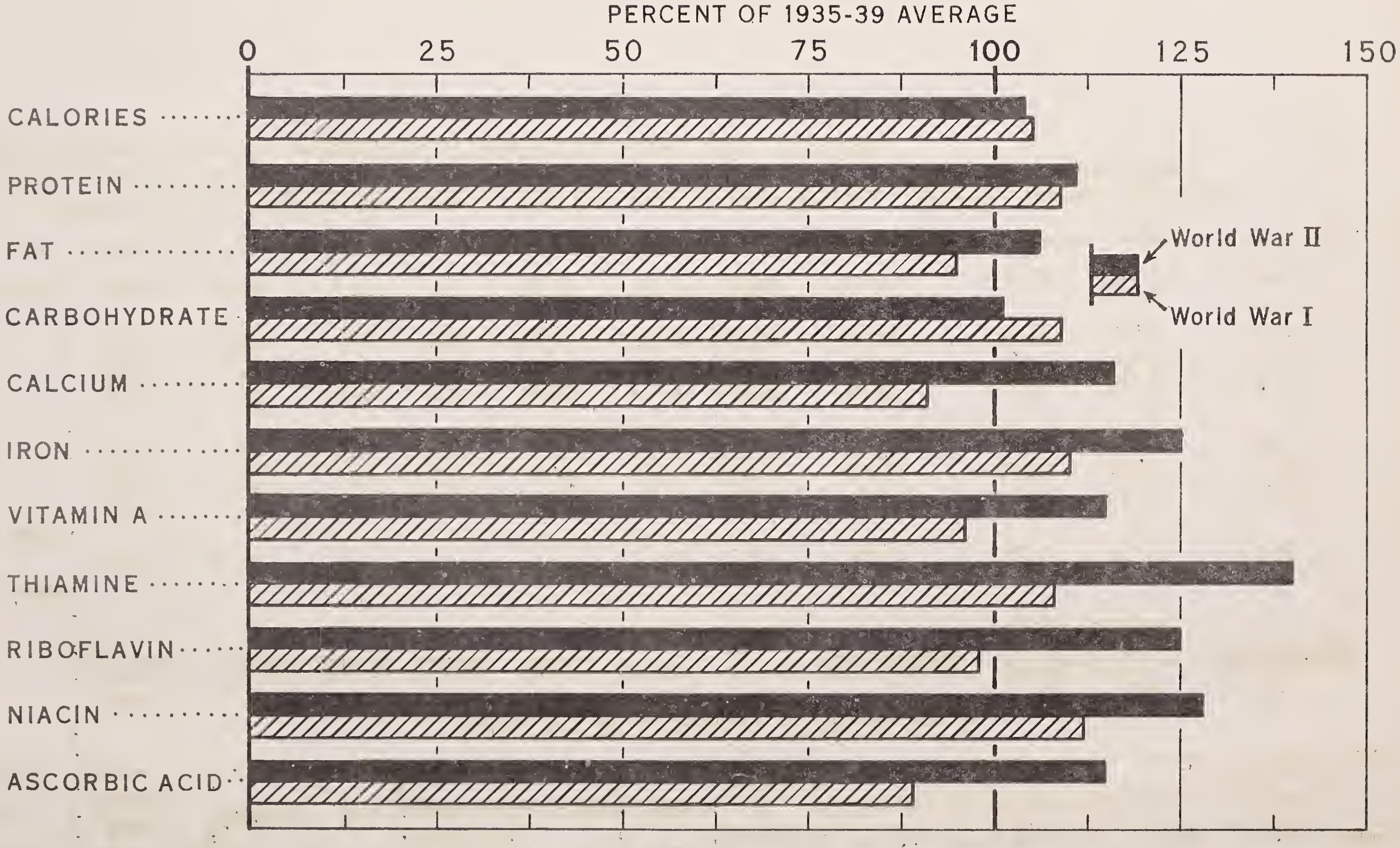
Table 3: Nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day, World Wars I and II 1/

Year	Food Energy	Protein	Fat	Carbohydrate	Calcium	Iron	Vitamin A Value	Thiamine (Vitamin B1)	Riboflavin	Niacin	Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C)
	World War II as percent of World War I										
	100 Calories	102 Grams	111 Grams	92 Grams	127 Grams	113 Milligrams	120 Int'l Units	130 Milligrams	127 Milligrams	114 Milligrams	129 Milligrams
Average, World War I	3405	97	126	468	.82	15.2	7,800	1.66	1.82	17.3	102
Average, World War II	3390	99	140	432	1.04	17.2	9,325	2.15	2.32	19.7	132
1917	3430	98	123	482	.80	15.0	7,600	1.63	1.78	17.1	99
1918	3380	96	130	453	.84	15.3	8,000	1.69	1.86	17.5	105
1942	3360	96	138	432	1.00	15.5	8,800	1.95	2.06	17.5	126
1943	3390	98	141	430	1.04	16.5	9,200	2.18	2.20	18.3	126
1944	3460	100	144	439	1.05	18.2	9,400	2.27	2.49	21.3	135
1945 Preliminary	3350	101	138	426	1.09	18.7	9,900	2.21	2.53	21.2	141

1/ Data from Table 2, *Nutritive Value of the Per Capita Food Supply, 1909-45*, Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics with cooperation of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, June 1946. Average for total population, 1917-18; civilian only, 1942-45.

NUTRIENTS AVAILABLE FOR CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA, PER DAY, WORLD WARS I AND II*

(1935-39=100)



**AVERAGE FOR TOTAL POPULATION IN 1917-18, CIVILIAN ONLY IN 1942-45*

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 46032 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

FIGURE 1

Table 4.--Percentage of total nutrients contributed by major food groups, average 1917-18 and 1944-45 1/

Commodity	Calories 1917-18	Calories 1944-45	Protein 1917-18	Protein 1944-45	Fat 1917-18	Fat 1944-45	Carbohydrate 1917-18	Carbohydrate 1944-45	Calcium 1917-18	Calcium 1944-45	Iron 1917-18	Iron 1944-45
Dairy prods.excl. butter	10.2	13.6	18.6	24.0	16.7	18.4	4.7	7.6	70.5	74.3	2.6	3.3
Eggs	1.8	2.3	5.2	6.0	3.2	4.3	---	---	2.4	2.4	6.6	7.6
Meat, poultry, fish 2/	10.7	11.5	26.8	28.0	22.2	22.0	---	---	2.2	1.9	27.0	23.4
Fats and oils, incl. fat pork cuts and butter	16.7	18.3	2.1	2.0	49.9	49.0	---	---	.6	.4	1.3	1.1
Dry beans, peas, nuts and soya flour	2.6	2.8	4.1	5.0	3.2	2.8	1.7	2.1	2.4	2.2	7.9	7.6
Potatoes & sweetpotatoes	5.0	3.9	4.1	3.0	---	---	8.1	6.9	3.2	1.9	9.2	5.4
Citrus fruit & tomatoes	.5	1.4	1.0	1.0	---	---	.9	2.3	1.0	2.2	2.0	3.3
Leafy, green, & yellow vegs	.8	1.3	1.0	2.0	---	---	1.1	1.9	4.1	4.9	4.6	6.5
Other vegetables & fruits	3.9	4.2	2.1	2.0	.8	.7	6.4	6.9	4.1	4.0	7.2	6.5
Grain products	34.6	26.6	35.0	27.0	3.2	2.1	53.8	44.9	7.3	4.5	23.0	3/ 28.2
Sugars and sirups	12.8	13.6	---	---	0	0	23.1	26.9	2.2	1.3	7.9	6.6
Cocoa	.4	.5	---	---	.8	.7	.2	.5	0	0	.7	.5

Commodity	Vitamin A 1917-18	Vitamin A 1944-45	Thiamine 1917-18	Thiamine 1944-45	Riboflavin 1917-18	Riboflavin 1944-45	Niacin 1917-18	Niacin 1944-45	Ascorbic Acid 1917-18	Ascorbic Acid 1944-45
Dairy prods.excl. butter	11.4	11.6	9.6	9.8	44.1	44.6	2.9	3.3	5.9	5.8
Eggs	5.5	5.8	2.4	2.7	7.1	6.4	---	---	0	0
Meat, poultry, fish 2/	8.3	7.5	30.8	25.4	19.2	15.9	44.8	40.5	2.0	1.4
Fats and oils, incl. fat pork cuts and butter	7.8	5.9	4.2	3.6	1.1	.8	2.3	1.9	0	0
Dry beans, peas, nuts, and soya flour	---	.1	5.4	4.5	2.7	2.0	8.0	7.1	---	---
Potatoes & sweetpotatoes	26.0	16.7	11.4	7.1	4.4	2.4	11.5	7.6	32.3	18.8
Citrus fruit & tomatoes	5.6	7.7	1.8	3.6	1.1	1.6	1.7	2.8	14.7	28.8
Leafy, green, & yellow vegs.	25.2	35.4	4.8	5.4	4.4	4.8	2.9	3.3	27.5	29.0
Other vegetables & fruits	9.0	8.9	5.4	4.5	4.4	4.0	5.2	4.2	17.6	15.2
Grain products	1.2	.4	24.8	3/33.4	9.9	3/ 16.3	19.5	3/28.3	0	0
Sugar and sirups	0	0	---	---	.5	.4	.6	.5	---	---
Cocoa	0	0	0	---	1.1	.8	.6	.5	0	---

1/ Data from Nutritive Value of the Per Capita Food Supply, 1909-45, June 1946.

2/ Excluding fat pork cuts, including game.

3/ Increase due to flour enrichment program.

about 35 percent to 27 percent of the total and also reduced the supply of protein and carbohydrate. However, the enrichment of wheat flour actually increased substantially the contribution of grain products to the supply of several of the nutrients. The proportion of iron supplied by grain products increased about 5 percentage points, riboflavin by 6, thiamine and niacin by 9 percentage points.

NOTE.

The above findings on the supplies of the major nutrients for 1917-18 can be compared with the results given in The Nation's Food by Raymond Pearl, published in 1920. The recent estimates of the Department for 1917-18 are derived from detailed supply and distribution data for each of the major foods. Many of these have been worked back from the improved data available after World War I. Practically all foods are included in the recent study and waste factors for individual foods have been used. Furthermore, there have been major developments in the information on the nutritive content of the individual foods. Dr. Pearl's estimates were worked out in terms of broad categories, using the best production figures and nutritive factors which were available at that time.

Table 5.- Comparison of estimates of nutrient consumption, 1917-18, by Department of Agriculture and Dr. Raymond Pearl 1/

Food Groups	Calories		Protein		Fat		Carbohydrate	
	Dept. of Agri.	Pearl	Dept. of Agri.	Pearl	Dept. of Agri.	Pearl	Dept. of Agri.	Pearl
	Number		Grams		Grams		Grams	
Grain products	1,179	1,201	34	34	4	6	252	245
Fruits, vegetables, potatoes (excl. legumes)	348	266	8	5	1	1	77	57
Dry beans, peas, nuts, soya	88	103	4	5	4	5	8	9
Meats, poultry, eggs, game, fish, offals, fat cuts, lard	687	825	33	34	61	74	-	-
Fats - vegetable incl. margarine, 2/	173	167	-	-	19	18	-	-
Dairy products, incl. butter	482	554	18	21	36	40	22	24
Sugars and sirups	434	473	-	-	-	-	108	115
Cocoa	14	18	-	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	3,405	3,607	97	100	126	145	468	451

1/ Department of Agriculture estimates are averages for 1917 and 1918 taken from Nutritive Value of the Per Capita Food Supply, 1909-45. They include allowances for farm to retail losses and ordinary wastes in kitchen preparation. Dr. Raymond Pearl's estimates were taken from Table 61, The Nation's Food. W. B. Saunders Company, 1920.

2/ Excluding butter, fat pork cuts and lard.

THE FOOD SITUATION IN CONTINENTAL EUROPE IN 1945-46 AND PROSPECTS FOR 1946-47 1/

Continental Europe is passing through a serious food crisis. Unusually adverse weather coupled with war-caused dislocations of agriculture cut food production in 1945-46 to the lowest point in many years. Despite abnormally heavy imports, supplies sank well below wartime levels.

The drop in food supplies was confined mainly to the ex-enemy countries. Most of these ex-enemy countries had been fairly well off during the war period, average per capita consumption showing little if any decline in Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria, which normally produce a surplus, and still exceeding 85 percent of the prewar level in Germany, Austria, and Italy in 1943-44. In 1945-45, however, the Danube countries had a very poor harvest, and food supplies were further reduced by reparations payments and requisitions. Germany, Austria, and Italy also had very poor harvests and, though substantial imports were received, supplies per capita in 1945-46 fell to less than 75 percent of prewar. Besides the ex-enemy countries, Poland and Spain experienced a sharp decline in food supplies in 1945-46.

Elsewhere in continental Europe average per capita consumption in 1945-46 remained close to the wartime level or rose above it. Such increases as occurred, however, started from low levels and were limited in extent. In France, the Low Countries, and Norway average per capita consumption recovered from around 75 percent of prewar in 1943-44 to between 80 and 85 percent in 1945-46. A stronger recovery in Greece brought supplies in that country to more than 85 percent of the prewar average, but this average was low compared to standards in northern Europe. Only large imports permitted an increase in supplies in these five countries. Except in Norway, production in 1945-46 was much smaller than before or during the war.

Those countries where supplies in 1945-46 were close to wartime levels included Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, and Czèchoslovakia. With food production showing little decline in 1945-46, neither Denmark nor Sweden needed imports to keep consumption above 90 percent of prewar. Denmark, on the contrary, continued to export substantial quantities of foodstuffs. Switzerland and Czechoslovakia were less well situated than Denmark and Sweden. Average per capita consumption in 1945-46, supported by fairly well-maintained production and some imports, was not much higher than in the Low Countries and Norway.

Taking continental Europe as a whole, per capita consumption in 1945-46 fell to around 80 percent of prewar. The drop was the more serious in that the composition of the food supply remained much poorer than in prewar times. During the war period, supplies of meat, milk, and fats in the western part of Europe had been heavily reduced as a result of the loss of imported feed grain and oilseeds and of the diversion of home-grown grains and potatoes from feed to food uses in order to maintain consumption of bread and potatoes at relatively high levels. In 1944-45, livestock numbers in the eastern part of

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1/ Prepared by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Europe were also depleted through battle losses and requisitions. Though the resumption of imports of livestock products and vegetable oils permitted some countries, notably France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Norway, to increase consumption of animal protein foods and fats in 1945-46 over the low wartime level, supplies for continental Europe as a whole showed little improvement.

Of still more serious consequence was the continued maldistribution of the reduced supplies available within the various countries. For in this as in past years, the farm population retained a disproportionately large share of home-grown produce for its own consumption, thereby accentuating sharply the drop in indigenous supplies for nonfarm consumption. Imported foodstuffs went mostly to nonfarm consumers, but even where imports were substantial in 1945-46, consumption in urban areas remained well below prewar levels such as, in general, were maintained on farms.

Moreover, the marked inequities in the distribution of food to nonfarm consumers which developed during the war have not been removed. Black markets in most countries continued to make heavy inroads into rationed consumption. Rations, of course, were not the sole source of food for any consumer, for some products remained unrationed in all countries, and rationed items could be obtained in more than the legal amount not only by paying high black market prices which the great majority could only rarely afford but also through arrangements with relatives and friends in the countryside or other special connections. Opportunities of supplementing rations in these ways, however, differed widely from one area to another and from one section of the population to another. There can be little doubt that millions of consumers have been forced to rely on ration allowances for the bulk of their food intake.

With the end of the war and the resumption of imports in volume, rations in most of the liberated areas were substantially increased. France even derationed bread temporarily in November and December 1945. By that time, rations in Germany and Austria had also shown an increase, though only in comparison with the extremely small rations in force during the late spring and summer. Food supplies available to the nonfarm population were still very short in both these countries, and the same was true in Finland, Poland, the Danube countries, Italy, and Spain.

The food situation in a large part of Europe would thus have been difficult enough had consumption remained at the levels prevailing last fall. But supplies generally were not large enough to permit maintenance of such levels throughout the consumption year. A widespread decline in nonfarm consumption, reflecting mainly a decrease in bread rations, took place in the first half of 1946.

Estimates of average per capita nonfarm consumption, based on rations for the month indicated and allowances for food obtained off the ration, are given below for a number of countries in the fall of 1945 and spring of 1946.

Country	Autumn 1945*		Spring 1946	
	Period	Calories per person per day **	Period	Calories per person per day**
Austria (Vienna)	December	1,800	April	1,550
Belgium	October	2,550	May	2,250
Czechoslovakia	October	2,150	May	2,250
Denmark	December	2,900	March	2,900
Finland	November	1,825	April	1,925
France	November	2,375	May	2,150
German, U.S., U.K., French zones	December	1,750	May	1,450
Greece	September	2,200	May	1,700
Italy	October	1,650	March	1,475
Netherlands	November	2,525	May	2,250
Norway	November	2,400	March	2,375
Portugal (Lisbon)	October	1,900	March	1,775
Spain	October	1,625	February	1,600
Sweden	September	2,800	March	2,650
Switzerland	October	2,525	March	2,600

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, June 1946
*Partly revised.
**Retail level.

Despite appreciable deterioration in the food situation in some western and northern European countries, nonfarm consumption in the spring of 1946 still ranged between 2,100 and 2,400 calories per person per day in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Norway, and considerably exceeded 2,400 calories in Switzerland, Sweden, and especially Denmark.

Among the southern, central, and eastern European countries (including Finland), Czechoslovakia was the only one where the food situation in urban areas compared favorably with that of western Europe in both halves of the consumption year 1945-46. By late spring, nonfarm consumption probably ranged between 1,600 and 1,800 calories per person per day in Greece as well as in Spain and Portugal. The decline in Germany, Austria, and Italy carried nonfarm consumption below 1,600 calories. Health conditions in Germany are known to have already taken a decided turn for the worse. According to the May 23 report of the Combined Nutrition Committee working for the Allies, famine edema has reappeared in urban areas in serious proportions.

Prospects for a more than temporary improvement in consumption in continental Europe in 1946-47 depend upon imports. Domestically-produced supplies, it is true, are expected to be much larger than in 1945-46, but they will still be below wartime levels and well below the average for the last prewar years when the continent imported some 10 percent of its food supplies (including feed in terms of food.)

Expectations as to increased output are based mainly on reports of favorable weather conditions thus far during the present growing season over wide areas that last year suffered from drought. Depressive factors are still operative, however. The shortage of draft power and fertilizer, which prevailed throughout the war and grew more acute in 1944-45, has been relieved in few areas outside western Europe. Machinery and equipment lost or removed during the last war year in central, eastern, and southeastern Europe have not yet been replaced. Land reforms, initiated in Poland, eastern Germany, and the Danube Basin in 1944-45, are still in process of completion. Economic and political difficulties, caused by the war and the changes consequent upon its conclusion, continue to interfere with recovery, especially in the defeated nations.

Under the weight of these adverse factors, the sown acreage remains smaller than before the war, and yields, even in countries where weather conditions have been favorable, will generally be below the prewar average, though they are expected to be considerably better than the low yields obtained in 1945. Assuming reasonably good weather through the harvesting season and the continuation of high flour extraction rates and other economies in the use of crops that have been practiced in the last six years at the expense of the livestock population, food production in continental Europe in 1946-47 may be estimated at about 90 percent of the 1933-37 average, as compared with 80 percent or less in 1945-46.

Despite the increase in production, many countries will not be able to maintain even the 1945-46 consumption level without substantial imports, and shipments from the formerly surplus-producing regions of eastern and southwestern Europe to the west are not likely to be significant. If consumption generally is to show a limited but real improvement in 1946-47, imports into continental Europe cannot be much smaller than actual imports in 1945-46 which amounted to around 15 million short tons (expressed in terms of wheat).

With imports of 15 to 15 1/2 million short tons of wheat equivalent, and with production at the levels which now appear likely, food supplies in 1946-47 should permit an average energy intake of 2,400 calories per person per day in all liberated countries, 2,000 calories in the deficit ex-enemy countries, and approximately the number of calories obtained during the war period in neutral countries. Since these standards fall short of prewar consumption by 10-20 percent in most areas, meeting them would not eliminate the black market. Nevertheless, the 2,400 calorie level should make it possible to maintain the energy value of rations and of unrationed food distributed to the nonfarm population at 2,000 calories per person per day at least.

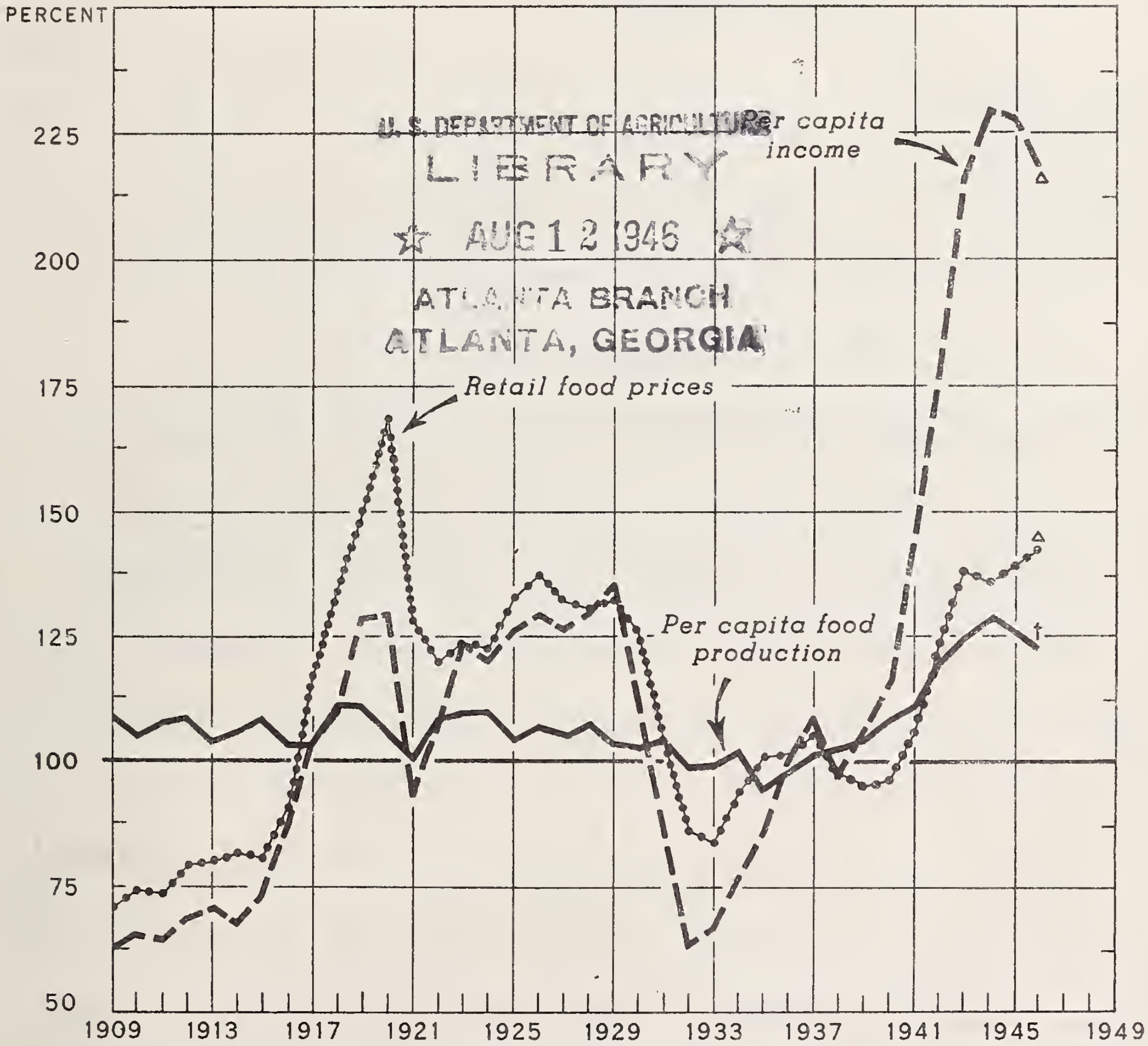
To improve the quality of the diet while increasing the calorie intake, considerable quantities of fats, meat, and animal protein foods will have to be imported. The deficit in sugar will also be substantial. If per capita supplies of these three groups of foods in continental Europe in 1946-47 were to equal 80 percent of the prewar average, it would be necessary to import 700,000 or 800,000 short tons each of sugar, pure fat, and meat (including fish) as well as some dairy products. With such imports, the remaining deficit to meet the nonfarm consumption standards indicated above could be covered by bringing in around 10 million short tons of wheat (including other grains for food and dry legumes).

THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS - 35 BAE JULY - AUGUST 1946

PER CAPITA FOOD PRODUCTION, RETAIL FOOD PRICES, AND INCOME PER CAPITA, 1909-46*
INDEX NUMBERS (1935-39=100)



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* RETAIL FOOD PRICES - BLS; PER CAPITA INCOME - DEPT. OF COMMERCE
△ ESTIMATE FOR FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1946 † TENTATIVE ESTIMATE FOR YEAR 1946

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 46068 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

High consumer incomes and export demand are expected to bring about a strong upward movement in food prices during the second half of 1946, unless prices are controlled.

Retail food prices in 1939-41 were held down by large food supplies and in 1941-45 by wartime price controls and subsidies. Per capita income has doubled since 1939.

Retail food prices and per capita income rose steadily from 1915 to the middle of 1920. After an abrupt decline, they returned to a relatively high level for the years 1923-29. Food production, incomes, and prices were all depressed during the 1930's.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, August 2, 1946

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SUMMARY

For the balance of 1946, seasonal increases will result in food supplies slightly larger than those available so far this year. In general, the situation will be much the same as it was in 1945 after V-J Day. Compared with a year earlier, there may be somewhat less of some foods including chicken and sweetpotatoes, but more potatoes, fresh fruits and vegetables.

Supplies of major nutrients in 1946 will be maintained at the high wartime level. Particularly important factors in this high level are plentiful supplies of fruits, vegetables, and fluid milk, and continued enrichment of grain products.

Indications for Major Foods

Meat supplies for civilians will be larger than a year ago until late fall. Livestock held back in late May and June are now being marketed. By October, however, lower production of beef and lamb than in 1945 and possible larger exports will bring civilian supplies below the near record level of last winter. Fresh and frozen fish will be plentiful during the balance of 1946; more canned fish will be available; too, as the new pack comes in, although less than prewar. Egg supplies will be relatively large during the next 5 or 6 months. About as much turkey will be marketed for civilians, on a per capita basis, as for the 1945 holiday season, but less chicken will be available than last fall and winter.

Per capita supplies of milk in all forms will be seasonally smaller in the remaining months of 1946. Should price controls and subsidies not be reinstated, higher prices for fluid milk would tend to decrease fluid milk consumption and begin the shift toward greater production of manufactured dairy products. There is little prospect for a significant improvement in the civilian supplies of food fats in the coming months. Butter production is declining seasonally, and heavy lard exports are scheduled.

The outlook for fresh fruit and vegetable supplies during the balance of the season is very good. Supplies of canned vegetables will continue large, and more canned fruit will be available than a year earlier. This year's pack of canned fruit may be substantially larger, and civilians will get a larger proportion of it. Potatoes will continue plentiful because of the near record crop, but sweetpotatoes will be short of demand at June ceiling prices. Larger crops of dry beans and peas this year than in 1945 will probably be reflected in increased supplies for civilians.

If restrictions on milling of flour and manufacture of other food grain products for civilian distribution are continued, domestic supplies of food grain products will be short during the balance of 1946. However, with new crop grains available, the situation has already improved compared with the past few months.

Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption and civilian per capita food consumption, 1943-45, and forecasts for 1946, with percentage comparisons.

(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1943	1944	1945 Revised	1946 Prel. 1/	1946 as a percentage of 1945
Food grains 2/	116	148	156	149	96
Truck crops 3/	124	137	143	149	104
Fruits and nuts 4/	108	123	112	127	113
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 5/	125	106	111	109	98
Sugar crops 6/	81	81	94	107	114
Total food crops 7/	116	129	130	133	102
Meat animals 8/	150	155	145	144	99
Poultry 9/	152	153	155	144	93
Dairy products 10/	113	115	120	116	97
Total food livestock	138	141	139	135	97
Total food production	133	138	136	134	99
Total agricultural production	128	136	132	131	99
Civilian per capita food consumption	106	111	112	115	103

1/ Production indexes are based on the actual and intended plantings, preliminary crop indications, and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products for the calendar year 1946.

2/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat.

3/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes, and watermelons) and truck crops for processing (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes).

4/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, orange, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts.

5/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, sweetpotatoes.

6/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup.

7/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops.

8/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs.

9/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers.

10/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.--Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary estimates for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 Prel.	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Percent	Percent
Meats(dressed weight)							
Beef	54.8	49.6	53.4	58.7	62	113	106
Veal	8.0	7.9	11.3	11.6	11	138	95
Lamb and mutton	6.7	6.4	6.7	7.2	6	90	83
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	72.4	77.0	60.2	69	123	115
Total meats	125.6	136.3	148.4	137.7	148	118	107
Poultry products							
Eggs 2/	37.3	43.1	44.0	49.0	46.9	126	96
Chicken (dressed weight)	17.9	28.0	23.6	25.3	23.6	132	93
Turkey (dressed weight)	2.6	3.4	3.4	4.3	4.3	165	100
Dairy products							
Total milk (whole milk equivalent)	801	761	789	799	813	101	102
Cheese	5.5	5.0	4.9	5.9	6.8	124	115
Cond. and evap. milk	16.7	18.6	16.1	18.2	19.0	114	104
Fluid milk and cream	340	403	424	438	431	127	98
Fats and oils							
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	16.7	11.7	12.0	10.9	10	60	92
Lard	11.0	14.6	13.8	12.0	12.1	110	101
Margarine	2.3	3.1	3.1	3.3	2.9	126	88
Shortening	11.7	9.8	9.2	10.0)	15.6	87	98
Other edible fats & oils	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.0)			
Total fats & oils 3/	48.0	45.6	44.6	42.2	40.6	85	96
Fruits							
Fresh							
Citrus	48.8	59.6	67.8	65.7	60	123	91
Apples(commercial)	30.2	25.1	26.5	23.0	24	79	104
Other (excluding melons)	59.5	36.2	50.2	56.0	58	97	104
Total fresh	138.5	120.9	144.5	144.7	142	103	98
Processed							
Canned fruit	15.2	13.0	9.4	15.0	16	105	107
Canned juices	4.1	6.6	10.0	10.0	13	317	130
Frozen	4/ .7	1.3	2.0	2.4	2.8	400	117
Dried	5.7	5.9	6.4	6.1	5.4	95	89
Vegetables							
Fresh	235	236	255	268	269	114	100
Canned	31.1	33.7	33.3	42.2	44	141	104
Frozen	4/ .4	.7	1.6	1.8	2.0	500	111
Potatoes	131	133	128	129	128	98	99

-- Continued -

Table 2.-Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary estimates for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 Prel.	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Percent	Percent
Sweetpotatoes	23.5	21.6	20.7	20.0	19.0	81	95
Beans, dry edible	8.8	8.8	7.9	8.0	7.5	85	84
Peas, dry field	.5	1.0	.6	1.0	.8	160	80
Canned soups & baby foods	5.2	6.9	8.8	10.1	10.3	198	102
Sugar (refined)	96.5	80.3	89.0	73.2	73	76	100
Grains							
Corn products:							
Corn meal	22.9	21.0	20.0	19.0	17	74	89
Corn sirup	7.7	12.1	12.1	12.0	10.5	136	88
Corn starch	1.3	1.8	1.4	1.8	1.7	131	94
Corn sugar	2.7	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.2	119	84
Breakfast food	1.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.1	124	81
Hominy	1.2	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	117	82
Oats:							
Oatmeal	3.9	4.0	3.2	4.1	4.4	113	107
Barley:							
Barley food products 5/	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	117	93
Wheat:							
Flour 6/	153.1	161.3	161.0	159.8	7/142.6	93	89
Breakfast food	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.4	92	92
Rye:							
Rye flour	2.2	3.2	2.8	2.4	2.4	109	100
Rice, milled 8/	5.7	5.8	5.0	5.1	4.7	82	92
Beverages							
Coffee 9/	14.0	13.0	15.8	16.7	17.2	123	103
Tea	.67	.46	.53	.59	.64	96	108
Cocoa beans	4.4	2.9	3.6	4.0	4.1	93	102
Peanuts (shelled)	4.4	6.4	6.1	6.0	5.8	132	97

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official Census estimates of total population adjusted for under-enumeration of children under 5 and for military personnel eating out of civilian supplies. 1/ Data for 1946 are preliminary; calendar year basis except for canned vegetables and dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; fresh citrus fruits, peanuts, and dry field peas on a crop-year basis, rice on August 1 year. All years begin in the year designated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year and rice which begins in August of previous year. 2/ In terms of number of eggs, the apparent per capita consumption was 298 in 1935-39, 345 in 1943, 352 in 1944, 392 in 1945 and 375 indicated for 1946. 3/ Includes actual weight of butter, fat content of other items. 4/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 5/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent. 6/ Includes white, whole wheat, and Semolina flour. 7/ Assumes 87 percent restriction in July-December. 8/ Revised to exclude table rice used by brewers. 9/ Green bean basis.

Table 3.- Total food disappearance: Source and distribution, 1935-39 average and 1940 to 1946 1/

Year	Source of total food: Total food disappearance	Food production	Imports	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Distribution by claimants: Civilian	Military including military civilian feeding	2/ Department of Agriculture: Net purchases	Shipments	Reduction in stocks	Increase in stocks	Commercial exports and shipments 3/
	Percentage of food disappearance in each year											
1935-39	100.0	93.7	6.4		.1	97.4						2.6
1940	100.0	94.9	5.5		.4	97.8						2.2
1941	100.0	94.5	6.0		.5	93.7	2.1	2.5	2.3		.2	1.7
1942	100.0	94.1	3.8	2.1		86.3	6.5	6.2	5.2		1.0	1.0
1943	100.0	95.3	4.9		.2	78.9	11.7	8.1	7.1		1.0	1.3
1944	100.0	94.5	4.8	.7		80.3	12.7	5.8	6.5	.7		1.2
1945	100.0	94.5	4.9	.6		81.1	12.3	4.5	5.0	.5		2.1
1946 Prel.	100.0	95.8	4.3		.1	89.4	3.0	4.7	5.8	1.1		2.9
	Percentage of 1935-39 food disappearance											
1935-39	100.0	93.7	6.4		.1	97.4						2.6
1940	109.7	104.1	6.0		.4	107.2						2.5
1941	114.1	107.8	6.9		.6	106.9	2.4	2.8	2.6		.2	2.0
1942	124.6	117.2	4.7	2.7		107.4	8.1	7.8	6.5		1.3	1.3
1943	129.7	123.7	6.3		.3	102.3	15.2	10.5	9.3		1.2	1.7
1944	136.8	129.3	6.6	.9		109.9	17.4	7.9	8.8	.9		1.6
1945	134.9	127.5	6.7	.7		109.4	16.6	6.1	6.8	.7		2.8
1946 Prel.	131.1	125.6	5.6		.1	117.3	4.0	6.1	7.7	1.6		3.7

1/ The upper section of the table divides the total disappearance in each year (1) according to the source of the food, and (2) according to its distribution. Both the total disappearance figure and the breakdown are on an index number basis; that is, they represent quantities weighted by average farm prices in the period 1935-39. The disappearance figure includes both domestically produced and imported foods. The lower portion of the table contains the same data expressed as a percentage of total food disappearance in 1935-39 instead of total disappearance in each year. 2/ The quantities assigned to the Department of Agriculture are principally food for lend-lease. These quantities are measured in two ways: (1) in terms of Department of Agriculture purchases from commercial channels, and (2) in terms of shipments out of the country. When measured in terms of purchases, additions to Department of Agriculture stocks included. When measured in terms of shipments, additions to stocks are shown separately. Department of Agriculture shipments were smaller than the total quantities purchased from 1941 to 1943 and stocks were built up. In 1944 to 1946, however, shipments exceeded purchases and stocks were decreased. 3/ The 1935-39, 1940-41 exports and shipments are strictly commercial. For the war years, they approximate the commercial portion as indicated by total exports and shipments less the exports assignable to the Department of Agriculture.

NUTRITIONAL REVIEW [1]

Available supplies of nutrients in 1946 are continuing at the high wartime level. The supply of food energy averages about 2 percent less than in 1945 but it is still slightly above pre-war rate and above estimated food energy requirements for the population as a whole. The reduction in food energy from the 1945 average is due chiefly to the decrease in supplies of grain products as now estimated.

The quantities of calcium and fat, including the fat in milk, meats, etc., are above the 1945 level. The daily supply of riboflavin is the same this year as last while protein, iron, vitamin A, niacin and ascorbic acid are slightly below. However, average per capita supplies of all nutrients with the exception of carbohydrate are considerably above the pre-war average (Table 4).

The continuation of the high wartime levels of iron, thiamine, riboflavin, and niacin are made possible to a great extent by the continued enrichment of white bread and flour. The greater supply of ascorbic acid, compared with the 1935-39 average, results from increased citrus fruit supplies. About three-fourths of the calcium is furnished by dairy products excluding butter. Hence, the 30 percent increase in their consumption since 1935-39 has been the principal factor in the 20 percent increase in the available supply of calcium. Larger per capita quantities of leafy, green, and yellow vegetables have contributed materially to the 19 percent increase in vitamin A during the war period.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Much larger supplies of meat for civilian consumption will be available during August and September than in the comparable months of 1945. Total supplies will exceed those of last summer because of the large marketings of livestock in July and most of August coincident with the lapse of price control, and because Government purchases will be very small during most of the summer. During the period October-March civilian supplies of meat, per capita, may be slightly smaller than the near record quantities available in October-March 1945-46. The relatively smaller supplies for this period will result chiefly from lower production of beef and lamb.

Meat production in 1946 is estimated at 22.6 billion pounds, slightly below the 22.9 billion pound production in 1945 and much less than the record of 24.7 billion pounds in 1944. Meat production in the 5 months January-May 1946 was about the same as in those months of 1945. June production was substantially smaller, however. Production of meat in July and August probably will be larger than the year before, although seasonally low. Whether meat production after September is more or less than in the fourth quarter of 1945, depends largely upon marketings of cattle. Hog slaughter in the fourth quarter is likely to be

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[1] Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

Table 4.-Nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945, and preliminary estimate for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/

Nutrients	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 prel.	1946 as percentage of - 1935-39	1946 as percentage of - 1945
Food energy ..	Calories	3,250	3,390	3,460	3,330	3,270	102	98
Protein	Grams	89	98	100	100	99	111	99
Fat	Grams	132	141	144	137	140	106	102
Carbohydrate .	Grams	428	430	439	424	402	94	95
Calcium	Grams	.90	1.04	1.05	1.09	1.11	123	102
Iron	Milli-grams	13.8	16.5	18.2	18.6	18.0	130	97
Vitamin A	Int'l units	8,100	9,200	9,400	9,700	9,600	119	99
Thiamine	Milli-grams	1.54	2.18	2.27	2.19	2.18	142	100
Riboflavin ...	Milli-grams	1.86	2.20	2.49	2.52	2.51	135	100
Niacin	Milli-grams	15.4	18.8	21.3	21.3	20.7	134	97
Ascorbic Acid.	Milli-grams	115	126	135	140	138	120	99

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on the basis of estimates of apparent civilian consumption (retail basis), including estimates of consumption in town and city gardens, supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Revised.

No deductions have been made in the nutrient estimates for the loss or waste of food in the home or for the destruction or loss of nutrients during the preparation of food. Deductions have been made for inedible refuse.

The data for iron, thiamine, riboflavin and niacin include the amounts of these nutrients added to white bread and flour under the enrichment program, and assume the continuation of the 80 percent extraction rate throughout the year.

larger this year than last. Meat production in 1947 may decline a billion pounds from the 1946 level. This decline would result from the marketings of a larger proportion of spring pigs before January 1, than in the previous marketing years, the reduced pig crop expected for the fall of 1946, and a continued decline in cattle and sheep slaughter.

The non-civilian takings of meat in the third quarter of 1946 probably will be considerably smaller than in the third quarter of 1945. The export program for meats in the last quarter is uncertain. Set-asides were reduced to zero on July 1, 1946. Contracts let in the first 6 months of 1946 for the purchase of meat for export reached about 760 million pounds, dressed meat basis, 11 percent of federally inspected production. Total exports and shipments during that period amounted to around 1 billion pounds; current purchases were increased by transfers of supplies to UNRRA and to the Department of Agriculture from army stocks.

The lapse of price controls on July 1 was followed by a sharp increase in wholesale and retail meat prices. Prices of wholesale steer carcasses advance in the fourth week of July to about 40 percent above the June 30 ceilings (plus subsidies) at Chicago. Prices for principal cuts of pork at Chicago were more than 50 percent above the former ceilings. The demand for meat is expected to continue strong throughout 1946 and the first half of 1947 because of the high level of consumer incomes.

Fish

The consumption of fresh fish and shellfish during the first half of 1946 was smaller than in the comparable period of 1945. Largely as a result of the 5-months strike of Boston fishermen, landings of fish were almost 15 percent smaller than the year before. In addition, a larger proportion of the total landings were being frozen this year. The Boston strike has ended, and plentiful supplies of fresh fish are in prospect for the last half of 1946.

The consumption of frozen fish and shellfish in the first 6 months of 1946 was much the same as the year before, again exceeding considerably prewar levels because of (1) continued short supplies of meat, (2) better consumer acceptance of all frozen food products, and (3) improved production and marketing facilities for frozen fish. Although cold storage holdings of frozen fish in July were almost double those of the year before, retail prices for most species have continued at ceiling prices during July. The June-September period is the seasonal peak in the production of frozen fish. With large supplies available for processing and substantial quantities now in cold storage, there will be plentiful supplies of frozen fish for the balance of 1946 and the beginning of 1947.

Civilian supplies of canned fish during 1946-47 will be somewhat larger than during the war largely because of reduced non-civilian takings. The pack of canned fish in 1946 is expected to be about 5 percent above the 1945 pack, and non-civilian takings may be about 40 percent smaller. Despite these increases over last year, civilian per capita supplies will still be about one-fourth smaller than the 5 pounds per capita consumed in 1935-39. A larger proportion than prewar of the canned fish supplies will consist of such types as tuna and sardines. Substantial quantities of canned salmon are being procured for export to Great Britain. Furthermore, there are some price and labor difficulties being experienced this year in the salmon and pilchard canning industries. However, civilians will have good supplies of canned tuna, flaked fish, Atlantic sea herring and sardines by fall.

Poultry and Eggs

Supplies of poultry products for civilian consumption during the second half of 1946 will be much the same as in the last 6 months of 1945. Egg supplies will be relatively plentiful. About as much turkey but less chicken will be available than during the fall and early winter of 1945.

Egg consumption per capita so far in 1946 has been about 5 percent less than the 1945 record. Meat supplies have been a little larger during most of this year than in 1945, so there has been less demand for eggs. During the balance of 1946, egg supplies will continue plentiful because of the large cold storage stocks and reduced Government procurement. These factors will more than offset the prospective reduction in output from the comparable months of 1945. Cold storage stocks of shell eggs and frozen eggs on July 1 amounted to about 17 million cases, 30 percent above July 1, 1945 holdings. A much larger proportion of the total were commercial holdings this year.

Chicken supplies are beginning to increase seasonally with larger farm marketings. Consumption of chicken by civilians during the first half of 1946 was somewhat larger than in the comparable months of 1945 when military procurement took a large proportion of available supplies. However, during the remaining months of 1946, chicken consumption per capita will be less than the peak reached in 1945 when military procurement was suddenly and drastically reduced after the end of the war. Chicken output for the year 1946 may be 10 percent smaller than last year, but military procurement has been reduced about 73 percent. Record stocks of chicken were in cold storage on July 1. The heavy demand for chicken to supplement short meat supplies in late June and early July caused a considerable rise in poultry prices immediately after ceilings lapsed on July 1. By the latter part of July, prices had returned to ceiling levels. Increases in poultry prices are likely during the winter.

Civilian supplies of turkey for the holiday season of 1946 will be at least as large as in 1945 although total turkey marketings will be about 15 percent smaller this year. Military procurement is not likely to take more than one-third of the quantity it took in 1945. Record stocks of turkey in cold storage, 79 million pounds on July 1, were three times as large as the commercial holdings in cold storage on July 1, 1945.

Dairy Products

Per capita supplies of dairy products will be somewhat smaller in the second half of 1946 than in the first half of the year, although they will be much the same as in the last 6 months of 1945. For the year 1946, civilian supplies of milk and milk products on a per capita basis will be the largest since 1942.

Should price controls and dairy subsidies not be reinstated, there would be shifts in the utilization of milk in the balance of 1946. Increased fluid milk prices would tend to reduce consumer purchases, possibly bringing the average rate of consumption for the year 1946 below the record rate of 1945. The probable increase in the prices for manufactured dairy products without price controls would result in higher production of these items, particularly butter, although the seasonal decline in milk production would slow down these shifts until next spring. A reduction in exports of milk products would also result. Therefore, civilian supplies of manufactured dairy products in the second half of 1946 would compare favorably with the level in the first half of the year and the average for 1946 may be above that of 1945. Supplies of skim milk products are expected to continue at a relatively high level in the balance of 1946.

The milk production outlook for the second half of 1946 is not significantly affected by the lapse of price controls. Although dairying might be in a less advantageous position without price controls than most other livestock enterprises, the full effect of the removal of price controls would not be in evidence until 1947. Milk production on farms in the first half of 1946 is estimated at 62.2 billion pounds, 2 percent below that of the comparable period of 1945. Milk production on farms for the year 1946 may be around 119 billion pounds, compared with 122.2 billion pounds in 1945.

The military procurement of dairy products in the next 6 months will be much smaller than in the January-June period when purchases were stepped up to take advantage of the seasonally high milk production. A decline in exports is indicated for the second half of the year. During the past 6 months much of the dairy products exported have come from army stocks, so the decrease in the amount actually shipped will be greater than the decrease in the purchases for export.

Butter prices increased substantially more than the prices of other dairy products following the lapse of the Price Control Act. On August 1, the wholesale price of 92-score butter at New York was 69 cents per pound compared with 57 cents at the end of June and 47 cents in mid-June before ceilings were increased. Prices of fluid milk increased on the average of 2 cents per quart, largely to offset the suspension of subsidy payments.

Fats and Oils

Civilian supplies of food fats and oils continued at a low level in the first half of 1946, largely as a result of the large exports of lard and of the decline in total butter output to the lowest level in 50 years.

Production of creamery butter in the January-June period is estimated at 537 million pounds, 218 million pounds less than a year earlier. In the first 6 months of 1946 despite sharply reduced military procurement the supply of butter for civilians apparently averaged about 10 percent smaller per person than in January-June 1945.

Civilian lard supplies were about the same during the past few months as they were in the late winter and spring of 1945. The total production of federally inspected lard during the months of January-June was about 5 percent greater than in the comparable months of 1945. Military takings were down sharply. However, stocks on hand at the beginning of the year 1946 were so much smaller than at the beginning of 1945 that export commitments this year had to be filled entirely from current production.

Civilian supplies of margarine so far in 1946 have been about 15 percent smaller per person than a year earlier. The supply of shortening and other edible oils has been only slightly less. The distribution of primary oils and fats (cottonseed oil, soybean oil, etc.) to manufacturers of margarine, shortening, cooking oils, and salad oils is controlled by quotas.

There is little prospect for a significant improvement in civilian supplies of food fats in coming months. Although butter production may decrease less than seasonally and even exceed last year's low level of output, civilian supplies will not be augmented, as they were in 1945, by transfers from military stocks.

The program for exports of lard in the second half of 1946 is higher than that of a year earlier and may offset the effect on civilian supplies of a moderate increase in lard production now expected. However, if exports fall substantially short of the scheduled quantities, there would be some increase in civilian lard supplies.

On the basis of present quotas, there will be no change from the first half of 1946 in the supply situation for margarine, shortening and oils. These quotas, however, will result in somewhat smaller supplies per capita this summer and fall than a year earlier.

Fruit

As the harvest of the large 1946 crop of deciduous fruits progresses, more fruit is becoming available to continue the generally ample supplies that have prevailed since late spring. Prospects for this year's deciduous crops have improved during June so that the aggregate production was indicated on July 1 to be about 31 percent larger than the 1945 crop and about 7 percent above average.

Among the principal deciduous fruits, only the prune crop is significantly smaller (9 percent) than last year. The grape and pear crops, although slightly smaller than last year, are moderately above average. The commercial apple crop is more than 50 percent larger than the 1945 crop but still 12 percent below average.

Market supplies of fresh fruit are expected to continue relatively large. Peaches will be seasonally in large supply during July and August, pears in August, September and October, prunes in September, and grapes and apples in September and later months. Fair supplies of California Valencia oranges and lemons will continue during the summer.

Present indications are that this year's commercial pack of canned deciduous fruits may be as much as 20 percent larger than the 1945 pack. This will mean increased civilian supplies of apples and apple sauce, apricots, sour cherries, and peaches. Larger supplies of canned pineapple shipped mainly from Hawaii, are also expected. Some further increase in the supplies of canned fruit juices is also indicated. Citrus juices will continue to be plentiful, and there will be more of the deciduous juices. The supplies of frozen fruit for the rest of 1946 probably will be much the same as they were in the latter part of 1945.

The 1946-season pack of commercially dried fruit may be about as large as the 1945 pack, with decreases in prunes nearly offset by increases in apricots, peaches, apples, and other fruits. Supplies from the new pack, especially raisins and prunes, will not become generally available until early fall.

Vegetables

Record supplies of fresh and processed vegetables are available for civilian consumption this year. Production for fresh market shipment during July, August, and September is indicated at 14 percent above last summer, and 29 percent above the 10-year average. Only lima beans, cabbage, sweet corn, and green peas will be relatively low. Supplies of most fresh vegetables during May, June, and July were sufficiently large to bring market prices down not only below ceilings but also below prices for these 3 months in the last 3 years; seasonal declines have occured since July 1. Prices for the major commercial truck crops were about 33 percent lower in July 1946 than in July 1945.

A new record civilian per capita consumption of canned vegetables is expected this year, surpassing the former record attained in 1945-46. Supplies in 1946-47 may average 44 pounds per capita. Increased per capita supplies of canned vegetables are anticipated for 1946-47 for most items, but especially for tomatoes, pickles, green peas, and asparagus.

The plentiful supplies of potatoes available for civilians so far in 1946 are expected to continue for the balance of the year. Production may reach 432 million bushels, slightly larger than that of 1945 and second only to the 465 million bushels harvested in 1943. The commercial early crop was far greater than any previous record; the intermediate crop was estimated to be nearly one-tenth larger than in 1945, but the crop in the 18 surplus late States may fall 4 percent below 1945. Per capita consumption of potatoes in 1946 is expected to average about 128 pounds.

Supplies of sweetpotatoes for civilian consumption in 1946 are estimated at 19 pounds per capita, compared with 20 pounds in 1945. Production this year is estimated to be about 2 percent smaller than last year's average crop. The production of dry beans and peas this year is indicated to be larger than in 1945. However, exports are expected to restrict civilian consumption to 7.5 pounds per capita of dry beans. Civilians will have all the dry peas they care to consume, perhaps about .8 pound per capita, and there will still be substantial quantities for relief shipments and the rebuilding of commercial stocks in this country.

Food Grains

Some improvement in the supplies of cereal products for domestic consumption may be expected during the coming months. Under the revised restriction order, flour distribution for domestic consumption will be increased to approximately 87 percent of the flour distributed in the comparable quarters of 1945. During the past few months a 75 percent restriction order has been in effect, but in many areas the mills were unable to secure wheat sufficient to meet this 75 percent maximum. The flow of flour supplies in 1946-47 is expected to be much more even than in 1945-46 when exports for relief were particularly great during the spring and early summer. If the corn and wheat harvest turn out to be the record highs now forecast, there is a possibility of easing the restrictions on some uses of grain. However, much depends on the whole world food situation, particularly the need for export wheat from the United States.

Domestic wheat supplies for 1946-47 are indicated to be 1,233 million bushels including the carry-over of 101 million bushels and an indicated crop of 1,132 million bushels. This crop will be the largest on record, but the carry-over is the smallest in 20 years except for 1937. On May 14, when the crop of wheat was estimated at 1 billion bushels, a tentative estimate of wheat distribution of 1946-47 was announced by the Department of Agriculture, 450 million bushels for food use, 150 million bushels for feed, 85 million for seed, and 250 million for exports.

More wheat was distributed in the year 1945-46 than ever before in our history. The exports of wheat and flour set a new record of 386 million bushels. About 320 million bushels of wheat were fed to livestock, the second largest quantity ever fed. Civilian food supplies absorbed about 460 million bushels, the smallest quantity since 1934. Most of reduction in supplies came in the last quarter when the bonus purchase program of the Department of Agriculture drained off much of the available supplies to meet export commitments. About 85 million bushels of wheat were procured under the bonus purchase program. The U. S. Government was reimbursed for the bonus by UNRRA and the importing countries. During June and July it was necessary to lend wheat from the export supplies to mills supplying those areas with acute bread shortage.

For the year ahead, world food grain supplies are especially dependent on the size of the new crops. A year ago, large reserves still existed in exporting countries, but these have now been exhausted. On the basis of present prospects, exporting countries will fall short of being able to provide the quantities exported last year. World production (excluding the Soviet Union and China), on the basis of very early reports, is expected to be 8 to 10 percent above the production in 1945, and perhaps not far from the 1935-39 average.

The condition of both spring and winter wheat in Canada at the end of June, expressed as a percentage of the long-time average yield per acre, was 122 percent compared with 101 for spring wheat and 97 for winter wheat a year ago. On the basis of increased acreage and more favorable conditions, the crop in Argentina and Australia should exceed the poor crops of last year and may reach prewar levels of production. Prospects in Europe are for a crop better than the very poor one in 1946 although still not up to other recent years and considerably below the prewar average.

The 1946 rye crop, on the basis of July 1 condition, was indicated at 20.9 million bushels, which is 21 percent below last year's crop and a little less than half of the 1935-44 average. The carry-over of old rye on July 1 was 2.4 million bushels, practically a minimum, so that the 1946-47 disappearance will have to come from the crop and from imports. In 1945-46 total supplies were 41.1 million bushels consisting of July 1 stocks of 12.7 million, production 26.4 million and imports 2.0 million. It is estimated that disappearance, in million bushels, was as follows: food 7.3, feed 11.3, seed 4.9, alcohol and spirits 8.3, exports 7.2, leaving the carry-over of 2.4. In 1946-47 food and seed use is expected to be about the same, feed moderately lower, and alcohol and exports very small. Per capita food consumption of rye flour is expected to be about the same as last year and in the prewar period (1935-39).

A rice crop of 69 million bushels is in prospect on the basis of the July 1 condition. This is slightly smaller than in 1945, but exceeds the production of any other year. It is expected at this time that the per capita consumption for civilians will be above the 4.7 pounds in 1945-46 but still below the 1935-39 average of 5.7 pounds. (Per capita figures have recently been revised to exclude table rice used by brewers.) The demand for rice in the Far East continues so great that it will absorb all the rice which can be exported from this country throughout the new marketing season. Exports in 1945-46 may total the equivalent of about 21 1/2 million bushels (about 6.3 million 100 pound bags of milled rice) and shipments to territories about 10 million. (29 million bags) Stocks of old rice are very small.

A record corn crop is in prospect and a near record oats crop is now being harvested. But early production is considerably below last year. The corn crop will not increase supplies of corn food products until at least late fall. With large supplies of feed grains in prospect for the coming year, supplies of corn and oats for civilian food are likely to be considerably larger than in the year just past.

Sugar

Little change is expected in the civilian per capita supply of sugar during the balance of 1946. The annual rate of 73 pounds will be maintained and rationing for home consumers probably will continue at the rate of 5 pounds for each 4 months. Sugar rationing has been extended under the Second War Powers Act. Total supplies of sugar for civilians for the second half of 1946 are larger than in July-December 1945, but there are more people eating out of the available civilian supplies because of demobilization.

Area shortages have developed because of the maldistribution of supplies from domestic production and from imports in relation to area requirements. Relatively large supplies of sugar from last year's sugar-beet crop have accumulated in some western areas while supplies are short compared with rationed demand in eastern States. The dislocation has continued despite subsidies being paid to offset transportation differentials. The problem may be accentuated during the last quarter of 1946 when areas normally dependent on imported cane sugar supplies may be short, but supplies in the normal marketing area for beet sugar may considerably exceed rationed demand in that area.

The sugar-beet crop was estimated on the basis of July 1 conditions to be 26 percent larger than in 1945. The domestic cane crop was estimated only slightly below 1945. Total domestic production of sugar from 1946 crops may approximate 2 to 2.2 million short tons, raw basis, compared with 1.76 million tons in 1945. However, most of the sugar-beet and cane crops harvested this year will not be distributed as sugar until next year.

The 1946 Cuban and Puerto Rican crops of sugar cane are turning out about 450 to 500 thousand tons below earlier expectations. Accordingly, all allocated supplies for all claimants were reduced about 2 percent by action of the Combined Food Board in June. The negotiations for the purchase of the Cuban crop by the United States have now been concluded. Carry-over stocks at the end of 1946 are expected to be about the same as those of the beginning of the year depending on the size of the fall sugar crops.

Ceilings were raised by the OPA on June 24th by 10 cents per hundred pounds at the processor level, about 1 cent per 5 pounds at the retail level. This increase in sugar prices was permitted to offset increased operating costs resulting from smaller volume and recent wage increases. Prices have generally held at ceiling levels during July, pending further action on the OPA bill.

DISTRIBUTION OF UNITED STATES FOOD SUPPLIES IN 1945-46 1/

The end of the war brought important shifts in the distribution of United States food supplies. There was an immediate reduction in military procurement, followed by substantial transfers of foods such as meats and dairy products from Army stocks to UNRRA, some to other countries and to domestic civilian distribution. The reduction in military procurement allowed increased civilian supplies of some foods, as well as substantial increases in exports to meet relief needs.

The over-all picture of the distribution of food supplies during a given year can be analyzed on a strictly physical weight basis, or by combining major food categories by means of average farm prices in the base period 1935-39 2/. Table 3, which is carried regularly in The National Food Situation, combines the foods on a price weighted basis. Physical weight data on distribution of the 1945-46 food supplies are given in Table 7 of this issue. In 1945-46, exports and shipments, including civilian feeding by the U. S. military, absorbed about 8 percent of the total food supplies on a price-weighted basis; civilians received 86 percent and the armed forces 6 percent. In poundage terms, about 12 percent of the total physical quantity of food was exported or shipped out of the country (including U. S. Military civilian feeding), about 4 percent went to the armed forces, and U. S. civilians consumed 84 percent (Table 7).

1/ Based on special studies and tabulations of the Production and Marketing Administration.

2/ The price weighted basis emphasizes the higher priced foods, such as meat, dairy products, and poultry. In effect, the combining of foods by means of prices offers a measure more or less in terms of consumer preferences and costs of production. The exports of grain products which are high in physical weight but low in price weight are proportionally much greater in physical weight terms.

U. S. civilian supplies of meats and dairy products were substantially larger after the reduction in military procurement in the fall of 1945. This contributed to a relatively higher proportion of the total food supply for civilians compared with estimates on a physical weight basis. The physical weight data indicate that the increase in the quantities of these foods for civilians were more than offset by decreases in the supplies of grain products.

Table 5.- Food exports from the United States by major groups, fiscal year 1945-46, 1944, average 1935-39, 1921, 1920 and 1919 1/

Commodity	Fiscal 1945-46	Calendar 1944	Average 1935-39	Post World War I 1921	Post World War I 1920	Post World War I 1919
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
Total food exports	37,468	15,222	8,147	37,745	29,808	31,463
Wheat and flour (grain equivalent)	2/ 23,146	4,140	2,244	21,540	18,720	16,200
Other grains - Total (grain equivalent) 3/	3,268	1,408	2,977	11,592	6,471	7,945
Rice (milled rice equivalent)	753	555	202	600	392	376
Corn and corn products (grain equivalent)	1,223	594	2,085	7,392	1,176	896
Oats, rye and barley (grain equivalent)	1,292	259	690	3,600	4,903	6,673
Fats and oils (edible including butter - product weight)	797	1,443	197	1,323	992	1,160
Meat (carcass weight equivalent)	4/ 1,304	1,993	121	825	1,131	2,269
Dairy products:						
Cheese	264	257	5/	12	16	13
Condensed and evaporated milk	1,059	600	31)	290	412	851
Dried milk	379	267	7)			
Other foods - Total	7,251	5,114	2,570	2,163	2,066	3,025
Potatoes and sweetpotatoes (farm weight equivalent)	2,007	119	116	210	249	220
Dry beans and peas (including indirect uses)	811	1,131	25	93	123	255
Sugar (raw value)	6/ 811	766	211	934	925	1,476
Eggs (shell equivalent)	426	1,030	4	50	40	58
Canned fish	255	112	99	31	65	170
Fruits - Total	1,487	1,476	1,956	728	544	732
Vegetables - Total (excluding potatoes and sweetpotatoes)	755	397	114	52	54	47
Miscellaneous	699	83	45	65	66	67

1/ Excludes shipments to U.S. Territories, except wheat and flour in 1945-46.

2/ Includes 240 million pounds for U.S. Territories and excludes other wheat products which are less than one-half of one percent of total wheat exports.

3/ Includes substantial quantities for feed and industrial uses except in 1945-46.

4/ Includes oil equivalent of soybeans shipped as beans and of peanuts shipped to UNRRA.

5/ Less than 1 million pounds.

6/ Excludes sugar in condensed milk.

Table 6 - Food exports from the United States, by destination, fiscal year 1945-46 1/

Destination	Total	Wheat and flour (grain equiv.) 2/	Other grains (grain equiv.) 3/	Fats and oils (product weight) 4/	Meat (carcass weight equiv.)	Dairy products 5/	Other foods 6/
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
Total food exports	37,468	7/23,146	3,268	797	1,304	1,702	7,251
Europe - Total	25,995	16,653	1,462	604	1,245	1,487	4,544
UNRRA 8/	8,819	5,876	517	164	571	683	1,008
U. S. Military civilian feeding	5,217	3,396	139	29	36	96	1,521
France and French North Africa	4,375	3,154	179	137	134	108	663
Belgium	1,745	1,212	164	43	108	74	144
Netherlands	885	681	40	25	60	45	34
Norway	154	27	69	9	2	---	47
United Kingdom & Br.Services	2,430	685	54	157	222	441	871
USSR	262	81	9	18	103	11	40
Other Europe	2,108	1,541	291	22	9	29	216
Far East - Total	3,219	2,003	822	9	11	65	309
UNRRA	365	284	9/81	---	---	10/	---
U. S. Military civilian feeding	1,371	992	318	---	---	---	61
Philippines	710	358	177	2	2	54	117
India	668	367	186	---	---	11	104
Netherlands East Indies	105	2	60	7	9	10/	27
Latin American Republics	3,143	2,097	585	114	22	34	291
Other exports	5,111	7/2,393	399	70	26	116	2,107

1/ Excludes shipments to U. S. Territories except for wheat and flour.

2/ Excludes other wheat products which are less than one-half of one percent of tot exports.

3/ Includes corn and corn products, rice, oats, rye and barley including malt.

4/ Total edible use including a very small quantity of butter. Includes oil equivalent of soybeans shipped as beans and of peanuts shipped to UNRRA.

5/ Includes cheese, condensed, evaporated and dried milk.

6/ Includes sugar, beans and peas, fish, eggs, poultry, vegetables, fruits, sirups soups, tea, coffee, cocoa, etc.

7/ Includes 240 million pounds shipped to U. S. Territories.

8/ May include some food for UNRRA in the Far East.

9/ May include a small quantity of rice for UNRRA in Europe.

10/ Less than 1 million pounds.

Exports in 1945-46 totaled 37.5 billion pounds, practically the same as the 37.7 billion pounds exported in 1921, the third year after the end of World War I and the peak year of relief shipments. (See Table 5). It now appears probable that 1945-46, the first year after World War II, will be the peak for this immediate postwar period. In terms of food energy, the exports from the United States in 1945-46 were sufficient to provide 250 million people with 500 calories per day for one year. These additional supplies were particularly important in view of the fact that the nonfarm consumption of several European countries averaged less than 2,200 calories per day per person. "A daily supply of 2,200 calories at the retail level is regarded as an emergency subsistence food consumption level needed to prevent the most serious under-nutrition leading to disease and unrest." 3/

The exports of food from the United States in 1945-46 were relatively small immediately after V-J day because of the sudden end of lend-lease, the problems of financing, and changing estimates of European import needs. Exports of grain were particularly heavy immediately after harvest, but they slowed down during the fall and winter. In the spring of 1946, a bonus program was instituted to meet export commitments. (The U. S. Government was reimbursed for the bonus by the importing countries or by UNRRA.).

Distribution of Exports

The major recipient of food supplies from the United States in 1945-46 was the group of countries supplied by UNRRA. Two-thirds of the supplies for UNRRA were wheat and flour. Next in importance were the areas supplied under the civilian relief programs of the United States armed forces. These relief quantities may be somewhat understated since they include only the amounts specifically reported by the armed forces and may not include on-the-spot diversions from regular military supplies for emergency relief. France and French North Africa received approximately 4.4 billion pounds of foodstuffs from the United States, of which 3.2 billion pounds were wheat and flour. Exports to other countries are shown in Table 6. Tables 9-12 contain additional details on the handling of the exports.

The distribution of the supplies of major foods is indicated in Table 7. Wheat and flour were the most important items shipped during the year. Wheat was used to supplement very short indigenous food grain supplies and as a substitute for other items such as fats and meats which were less plentiful and more expensive. The total amount of wheat and flour exported in the fiscal year 1945-46 reached 23.1 billion pounds, the equivalent of 386 million bushels or 10 1/3 million long tons. The previous peak in wheat exports was reached in calendar-year 1921 when 359 million bushels were exported. Wheat exports during the late 30's were exceptionally small. In 1945-46, almost half of the total amount of wheat distributed for food went to export and military claimants. During that year, more U. S. wheat was distributed for food than ever before in United States' history, about 880 million bushels. Substantial quantities of rice and other grains were also exported in 1945-46. Except for rice and wheat, these other grains were intended for food uses only in the January-June 1946 period, whereas a large part of the exports during July-December 1945 and during previous years was for feed and industrial uses.

3/ Report on World Food Situation - Technical Supplement, No. 1, Nutrition - Food and Agriculture Organization, May 20, 1946

Exports of edible fats and oils in the fiscal year 1945-46 totaled 797 million pounds. This was far greater than the prewar average, (1935-39) of 197 million pounds but less than the 913 million pound average exports for 1925-29. Exports of fats and oils from the United States were at a relatively high level in 1945-46, almost 12 percent of the year's disappearance, despite the fact that the imports of fats and oils for food into the United States in 1945-46 were no more than one-seventh of prewar imports. The United States is normally a net importer of fats and oils.

A smaller proportion of the meat supplies (6 percent) was exported in 1945-46 than of fats and oils. Even so, the meat exports were more than 10 times as large as the average for 1935-39, (which was much lower than before the drought years, however) and substantially larger than in 1920.

Dairy products were particularly desirable for relief. Accordingly, the United States exported 264 million pounds of cheese, 1,059 million pounds of condensed and evaporated milk, and 379 million pounds of dried milk in 1945-46. The cheese exports represented almost one-fourth of the year's supply, the condensed and evaporated milk 29 percent, and dried milk exports 40 percent.

Other important export items were dry beans, dry peas, and canned fish. Large stocks of dry beans and peas were available from previous record crops. U. S. civilian supplies of canned fish were greatly reduced.

U. S. Food Consumption a Record

The impact of these exports upon the domestic food situation was not as great as might have been expected from the magnitude of the exports. Fortunately, United States food supplies were at an all-time peak. Although the civilian per capita consumption of some foods fell substantially below prewar, exceptionally large supplies of other foods were available for domestic consumption (See Table 8). When individual foods are combined by means of average retail prices in 1935-39, it is evident that civilian per capita consumption set a new record in 1945-46, 14 percent above the prewar level and even above the high wartime level of 1944. The supply of food energy in 1945-46 for United States civilians average 3,300 calories per person per day, approximately the same as in the prewar period 1935-39. Even with the reduction in the consumption of wheat products during the latter part of the fiscal year, the average supplies of the essential nutrients exceeded prewar quantities and were more than sufficient to provide an adequate diet for every American if equitably distributed.

The major impact of the United States' exports in 1945-46 fell on wheat consumption, particularly in the spring months of 1946. The distribution of flour for domestic consumption in the spring months was limited to 75 percent of the quantities distributed in the corresponding months of 1945. However, the bonus purchase program virtually stopped sales of wheat to flour mills so that many mills were unable to grind and distribute the 75 percent maximum. In order to alleviate acute shortages of bread in some areas, a wheat loan program for mills was established for June and July. The consumption of rice and other grain products was also reduced in 1945-46. Large quantities of rice were exported to the Far East under the UNRRA program as well as to the Philippines. Corn products were short during the year, not so much because of the exports of corn as because of the general price situation, exceptionally heavy demands for all uses, and the short supplies of market corn suitable for processing. The 1945 corn crop had an exceptionally high moisture content.

Table 7.-Distribution of U. S. food supplies on physical weight basis. US civilians US territories, US military, and exports, fiscal year 1945-46

Commodity	Total for distribution 1/	Percentage of total food distribution			
		U.S. Civilians	U. S. Terri-tories	U.S. Military and war services	Exports 3/
	1	2	3	4	5
	Mil. lb.	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Grand total distribution	297,687	83.8	.4	4.2	12.6
Wheat and flour (grain equivalent)	52,808	52.3	2/	3.9	43.8
Other grains - (grain equivalent)					
Rice (milled rice equivalent)	1,960	42.7	15.7	3.2	38.4
Corn and corn products (grain equivalent	6,393	78.4	1.1	1.4	19.1
Oats, rye and barley (grain equivalent)	6,819	80.3	.6	.1	19.0
Fats and oils (edible including butter - product weight)	6,830	83.2	.8	4.3	11.7
Meat (carcass weight equivalent)	23,471	85.9	.4	8.1	5.6
Dairy products:					
Cheese	1,109	75.8	.4	0	23.8
Condensed and evaporated	3,633	68.9	2.0	0	29.1
Dried milk	934	54.2	1.0	4.3	40.5
Other foods -					
Potatoes and sweetpotatoes (farm weight equivalent)	23,484	84.3	.5	6.6	8.6
Dry beans and peas (including indirect uses)	2,061	55.6	2.8	2.3	39.3
Sugar, (raw value)	11,558	86.7	.1	6.2	7.0
Eggs (shell equivalent)	7,249	88.2	.2	5.7	5.9
Canned fish	694	52.9	1.9	8.4	36.8
Fruits - Total	28,164	89.7	.3	4.7	5.3
Vegetables - Total (excluding potatoes and sweetpotatoes)	45,320	94.2	.2	3.9	1.7
Miscellaneous	75,200	96.1	.1	2.9	.9

1/ Includes US military stocks accumulated prior to July 1, 1945 and transferred to UNRRA and US military civilian feeding during the fiscal year 1945-46.

2/ Wheat shipments to US territories included in total exports.

3/ Includes civilian relief by US armed forces.

Table 8.-U. S. civilian per capita consumption of all goods, fiscal year 1945-46, 1944, and average 1935-39

Commodity	Consumption in pounds per capita		
	Fiscal 1945-46 1/	1944	Prewar average 1935-39
ndex of per capita consumption of all foods 2/	114	111	100
Wheat and flour, including cereals (grain equiv.)	204.4	230.6	219.9
Other grains - Total	83.9	91.1	78.8
Rice, milled	4.7	5.0	5.7
Corn and corn products (grain equiv.) 3/	37.1	48.1	41.5
Oats, rye and barley (grain equiv.)	40.6	36.3	31.6
Fats and oils -- Edible -- Total	42.1	45.4	48.6
Butter (product weight)	10.4	12.0	16.7
Margarine (product weight)	3.6	3.9	2.9
Lard	12.1	13.8	11.0
Other	16.0	15.7	18.0
Meat (carcass weight equivalent)	149	148.4	125.6
Dairy products:			
Fluid milk and cream	456	424	340
Cheese	6.2	4.9	5.5
Condensed and evaporated milk	18.5	16.1	16.7
Dried milk	3.7	1.8	2.0
Other foods - Total	982	974	900
Potatoes and sweetpotatoes	147	149	155
Dry beans and peas	8.5	9.1	9.3
Sugar, beet and cane (refined)	69.4	89.0	96.3
Other sugar and sirups	23.5	21.7	35.3
Eggs (shell equivalent)	47.4	44.0	37.3
Chicken and turkey	28	27.0	20.3
Fish - Total	8.8	8.8	12.4
Fruits	187	172	164
Vegetables	308	290	267
Miscellaneous	154	163	122

1/ Derived from special tabulations by Office of Requirements and Allocationa, PMA.
2/ Weighted by average retail prices for 1935-39.
3/ Excludes corn used for sugar and sirups.

Butter consumption in 1945-46 was much lower than ever before, not because of exports of butter but rather because of smaller butter production. Total milk supplies were very high but they were channeled into fluid milk and other dairy products. Lard consumption was smaller than in 1944 because of the particularly heavy exports. In contrast, meat consumption per capita reached a near record rate of 149 pounds, wholesale dressed weight. This average was well above prewar but substantially below the demand for meat which has been estimated at 165 to 170 pounds per person. Military and export procurement together amounted to about 14 percent of the total quantity of meat distributed during the fiscal year.

Despite the substantial exports of dairy products in 1945-46, the domestic consumption of all except butter was relatively high. The per capita consumption of fluid milk and cream reached a peak of 456 pounds. Although about a fourth of the supplies of cheese and condensed and evaporated milk was exported, the civilian consumption of these items was at a near record level. This was possible because of the large quantities of cheese and evaporated milk which were transferred from military stocks to exports, or turned back into civilian distribution channels.

During 1945-46 per capita consumption of eggs, chicken and turkeys, vegetables, and canned fruit juices was very high. On the other hand, sugar consumption reached a new low, reflecting the tight world supplies of sugar.

Table 9.- Food exports from United States according to procurement method, by destination, fiscal year 1945-46 1/

Item	Total	Wheat and flour (grain equiv.) 2/	Other grains (grain equiv.) 3/	Fats and oils (product weight) 4/	Meat (carcass weight equiv.)	Dairy products 5/	Other foods 6/
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Total food exports	37,468	7/ 23,146	3,268	797	1,304	1,702	7,251
Commercial	12,134	6,834	1,597	217	47	204	3,235
U. S. Government - Total	25,334	16,312	1,671	580	1,257	1,498	4,016
Military civilian feeding 8/	6,588	4,388	457	29	36	96	1,582
UNRRA - Transfers from military stocks	738	---	11	22	372	25	358
PMA - Total	17,958	11,924	1,203	529	849	1,377	2,076
Europe - Total	16,601	111,258	715	502	838	1,357	1,931
UNRRA 9/	7,032	4,879	504	141	199	659	650
France and French North Africa	3,900	3,154	63	116	134	99	334
Belgium	1,261	898	54	40	108	74	87
Netherlands	466	289	13	25	60	45	34
Norway	8	4	---	2	2	---	---
United Kingdom & BSO	2,008	430	54	155	222	441	706
USSR	244	63	9	18	103	11	40
Other Europe	1,682	1,541	18	5	10	28	80
Far East - Total	997	361	475	7	9	13	132
UNRRA	355	285	10/ 70	---	---	11/	---
Philippines	172	11/	159	11/	---	2	11
India	376	76	186	---	---	11	103
Netherlands East Indies	94	---	60	7	9	11/	18
Latin American Republics	152	152	---	---	---	---	---
Other	208	153	13	20	2	7	13

1/ Excludes shipments to U. S. Territories except for wheat and flour.

2/ Excludes other wheat products which are less than one-half of one percent of total exports.

3/ Includes rice, corn and corn products, oats, rye, and barley including malt.

4/ Total edible use including a very small quantity of butter. Includes oil equivalent of soybeans shipped as beans and of peanuts shipped to UNRRA.

5/ Includes cheese, condensed, evaporated, and dried milk.

6/ Includes sugar, beans and peas, fish, eggs, vegetables, fruits, poultry, sirups, soups, tea, coffee, cocoa, etc.

7/ Includes 240 million pounds shipped to U. S. Territories of which 40 million pounds were procured from PMA and the balance from commercial channels.

8/ Includes transfers from military stocks.

9/ May include some food for UNRRA in the Far East.

10/ May include a small quantity of rice for UNRRA in Europe.

11/ Less than 1 million pounds.

Table 10 - Food exports from United States according to procurement method, by destination, fiscal year 1945-46 1/

Item	Other grains total (grain equiv.)	Rice (milled rice equiv.)	Corn and corn products (grain equiv.)	Oats, rye, and barley incl. malt (grain equiv.)
	1	2	3	4
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
Total food exports	3,268	753	1,223	1,292
Commercial	1,597	361	390	846
U.S. Government - Total	1,671	392	833	446
Military civilian feeding 2/	457	83	325	49
UNRRA - Transfers from				
Military stocks	11	11	3/	3/
PMA - Total	1,203	298	508	397
Europe - Total	715	7	323	385
UNRRA 4/	504	3/	206	298
France and French North Africa	63	2	20	41
Belgium	54	3/	16	38
Netherlands	13	---	13	---
Norway	---	---	---	---
United Kingdom and Br. Services	54	3/	50	4
USSR	9	5	3/	4
Other Europe	18	3/	18	---
Far East - Total	475	289	186	---
UNRRA	70	5/ 70	---	---
Philippines	159	159	3/	---
India	186	3/	186	---
Netherlands East Indies	60	60	---	---
Latin American Republics	---	---	---	---
Other	13	2	3/	11

1/ Excludes shipments to U.S. Territories.
2/ Includes transfers from military stocks.
3/ Less than 1 million pounds.
4/ May include some food for UNRRA in the Far East.
5/ May include a small quantity for UNRRA in Europe.

Table 11 - Food exports from United States according to procurement method, by destination, fiscal year 1945-46 1/

Item	Total	Cheese	Condensed and evaporated milk	Dried milk
	1	2	3	4
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
Total food exports	1,702	264	1,059	379
Commercial	204	4	157	43
U.S. Government - Total	1,498	260	902	336
Military civilian feeding 2/	96	3/	62	34
UNRRA - Transfers from military stocks	25	11	5	9
PMA - Total	1,377	249	835	293
Europe - Total	1,357	249	824	284
UNRRA 3/	659	56	446	157
France and French No. Africa	99	25	47	27
Belgium	74	27	40	7
Netherlands	45	4	32	9
Norway	---	---	---	---
United Kingdom & Br. Services	441	133	248	60
USSR	11	4	4/	7
Other Europe	28	---	11	17
Far East - Total	13	4/	4	9
UNRRA	4/	---	4/	4/
Philippines	2	---	2	4/
India	11	---	2	9
Netherlands East Indies	4/	4/	---	---
Latin American Republics	---	---	---	---
Other	7	4/	7	---

1/ Excludes shipments to U.S. Territories.
2/ Includes transfers from military stocks.
3/ May include some food for UNRRA in the Far East.
4/ Less than 1 million pounds.

Table 12 - Food exports from United States according to procurement method, by destination, fiscal year 1945-46 1/

Item	Other foods-Total	Potatoes and sweetpotatoes (farm wt. equiv.)	Dry beans and peas (incl. indirect uses)	Sugar 2/	Eggs (shell equiv.)	Canned fish	Fruits-Total	Vegetables - Total (excl. potatoes and sweetpotatoes)	Miscellaneous
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
Total food exports	7,251	2,007	811	811	426	255	1,487	755	699
Commercial	3,235	831	92	332	22	38	1,194	417	309
U.S. Government - Total	4,016	1,176	719	479	404	217	293	338	390
Military civilian feeding 3/	1,582	847	361	96	86	51	11	116	14
UNRRA - Transfer from military stocks	358	4/	9	---	11	---	177	103	58
PMA - Total	2,076	329	349	383	307	166	105	119	318
Europe - Total	1,931	224	349	369	307	144	103	119	316
UNRRA 5/	650	2	186	177	4/	60	4	49	172
France and French North Africa	334	92	31	119	16	---	---	---	76
Belgium	87	70	2	---	2	4/	4	---	9
Netherlands	34	---	2	---	---	2	4	---	26
Norway	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
United Kingdom and Br. Services	706	58	101	26	271	82	91	54	23
USSR	40	2	2	7	18	---	---	9	2
Other Europe	80	---	25	40	---	---	---	7	8
Far East - Total	132	103	4/	7	---	20	---	4/	2
UNRRA	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Philippines	11	---	4/	7	---	2	---	---	2
India	103	103	---	---	---	---	---	4/	---
Netherlands East Indies	18	---	---	---	---	18	---	---	---
Latin American Republics	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Other	13	2	4/	7	---	2	2	---	4/

1/ Excludes shipments to U.S. Territories

2/ Excludes sugar in condensed milk.

3/ Includes transfers from military stocks.

4/ Less than 1 million pounds.

5/ May include some food for UNRRA in Europe.

Table13.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary estimates for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 Prel.	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
oats (dressed weight)								
Beef	Mil. lb.	6,936	8,523	9,135	10,157	9,600	138	95
Veal	" "	1,038	1,160	1,596	1,635	1,500	145	92
Lamb and mutton	" "	871	1,104	1,023	1,053	900	103	85
Pork (excluding lard)	" "	7,337	13,349	12,916	10,046	10,600	144	106
Total meats		16,182	24,136	24,670	22,891	22,600	140	99
oultry and Eggs								
Eggs	Mil. doz.	3,335	4,972	5,305	5,060	4,950	148	98
Chicken (dressed weight)	Mil. lb.	2,325	3,304	3,468	3,700	3,300	142	89
Turkey (dressed weight)	" "	350	466	552	677	575	164	85
Dairy Products								
Total milk 2/	" "	103,656	117,687	118,504	121,744	118,526	114	97
Cheese 3/	" "	669	993	1,016	1,115	1,050	157	94
Cond. and evap. milk	" "	2,225	3,343	3,750	4,107	3,350	151	82
Fluid milk and cream 4/	" "	44,146	53,925	56,346	58,428	60,328	137	103
Fats and Oils 5/								
Butter, farm & factory	" "	2,170	2,015	1,818	1,706	1,450	67	85
Lard 6/	" "	1,624	2,884	2,939	2,075	2,260	139	109
Margarine (fat content)	" "	303	500	479	499	427	141	86
Shortening	" "	1,529	1,438	1,364	1,449)			
Other edible fats and oils 7/	" "	575	1,272	1,123	954)	2,102	100	87
Total fats and oils	" "	6,201	8,109	7,723	6,683	6,239	101	93
Fruits								
Fresh:								
Citrus	" "	6,870	8,838	10,069	9,974	9,626	140	97
Apples (commercial)	" "	4,384	3,107	4,181	2,426	3,946	90	163
Other (excl. melons)	" "	4,847	3,568	5,051	5,364	5,703	118	106
Processed:	" "							
Canned fruit	" "	1,702	1,608	2,077	1,927	2,188	129	114
Canned fruit juices	" "	321	1,390	1,606	1,782	1,950	607	109
Frozen	" "	106	214	341	452	435	410	96
Dried	" "	1,111	1,339	1,139	1,014	1,010	91	100

-- Continued

Table 13.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary estimates for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/ -- Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 Prel.	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 194
Vegetables								
Fresh 8/	Mil. lb.	30,498	31,672	34,402	36,061	38,331	126	106
Canned 9/	" "	4,084	6,236	6,379	6,737	6,819	167	101
Frozen	" "	10/ 78	223	238	308	316	405	103
Potatoes	Mil. bu.	356	465	383	425	432	121	102
Sweetpotatoes	" "	68	73	71	67	65	96	97
Dry edible beans 11/	Mil. lb.	1,360	1,936	1,497	1,231	1,420	104	115
Dry field peas 11/	" "	230	1,000	803	507	580	252	114
Canned soups	" "	684	675	890	977	1,075	157	110
Canned baby foods	" "	48	234	306	422	422	879	100
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 sh. tons	1,948	1,531	1,512	1,600	2,000	103	125
Grains								
Wheat	Mil. bu.	759	841	1,072	1,123	11,132	149	101
Rye	" "	44.9	30.5	25.5	26.4	20.9	47	79
Rice	" "	49.8	64.8	68.2	70.2	68.8	138	98
Corn	" "	2,316	3,034	3,203	3,018	3,488	151	116
Oats	" "	1,045	1,138	1,155	1,548	1,471	141	95
Barley	" "	239	324	279	264	230	96	87
Peanuts	Mil. lb.	1,229	2,185	2,111	2,062	N.A.	---	---

1/ Calendar year basis except for fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year; canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis. Potatoes and sweetpotatoes are now on the calendar year basis too. 2/ The production of total milk for human consumption differs from total farm production of milk in that the former excludes milk fed to calves but includes off-farm production while the latter excludes off-farm production but includes milk fed to calves. Milk fed to calves and milk produced off farms are usually of approxiamtely equal volume. 3/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese. 4/ Fluid milk equivalent for fresh use. 5/ Fat content basis except for butter which is on an actual weight basis. 6/ Excluding amount used in manufactured products. 7/ Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products and other miner uses such as fish canning. 8/ Estimates of all vegetables and melons other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production. 9/ Includes asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk), peas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, tomatoes, tomato pulp, and tomato juice tomato sauce, paste, and catsup, and chili sauce, mixed vegetables. 10/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 11/ Cleaned basis.

Table 14.- Retail food prices and total consumer price index, United States, 1940-43 and 1944-46 by months

(Index numbers 1935-39 = 100)

Year and month	Meats	Eggs	Dairy products	Fats and oils	Cereals and bakery products	Fruit and vegetables			Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Consumer price index
						Fresh	Canned	Dried				
1940	96	94	101	82	97	97	92	101	97	92	97	100
1941	108	112	112	94	98	104	98	107	106	102	106	105
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	126	122	124	117
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
1944	130	153	134	123	108	168	130	166	126	124	136	126
Jan.	131	154	134	124	108	175	130	163	127	124	136	124
Feb.	130	143	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
March	131	135	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
April	130	128	134	124	108	178	130	163	127	124	135	125
May	130	127	134	123	108	183	129	164	126	124	136	125
June	130	129	134	123	108	185	129	164	126	124	136	125
July	129	149	134	123	109	188	129	165	127	124	137	126
Aug.	129	159	134	123	108	187	129	165	126	124	138	126
Sept.	129	158	134	123	109	179	129	165	126	124	137	126
Oct.	129	179	134	123	109	170	130	166	126	124	136	126
Nov.	130	187	134	123	109	168	130	166	126	124	136	126
Dec.	130	188	134	123	109	164	130	166	126	124	137	127
1945	131	164	134	124	109	188	130	168	126	125	139	128
Jan.	130	170	134	123	109	178	130	167	126	124	137	127
Feb.	131	153	134	124	109	178	130	167	126	124	136	127
Mar.	131	141	134	124	109	179	130	167	126	124	136	127
Apr.	131	140	134	124	109	183	130	168	126	125	137	127
May	132	141	134	124	109	195	130	169	127	125	139	128
June	132	145	133	124	109	208	130	169	126	125	141	129
July	132	157	133	124	109	207	130	169	126	125	142	129
Aug.	132	171	133	124	109	196	130	169	127	125	141	129
Sept.	132	184	133	124	109	182	130	169	126	125	139	129
Oct.	131	186	133	124	109	182	130	169	126	125	139	129
Nov.	131	192	136	124	109	182	131	168	126	125	140	129
Dec.	131	193	136	125	109	188	130	169	127	125	141	130
1946												
Jan.	131	172	136	126	109	193	130	169	125	125	141	130
Feb.	131	144	137	125	110	193	131	170	127	125	140	130
Mar.	131	139	137	126	110	196	130	169	132	125	140	130
Apr.	133	138	137	126	113	200	129	170	135	125	142	132
May	134	140	139	126	115	200	128	172	136	125	143	132
June	134	147	148	126	122	197	128	172	136	125	146	133

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

1947 OUTLOOK ISSUE

THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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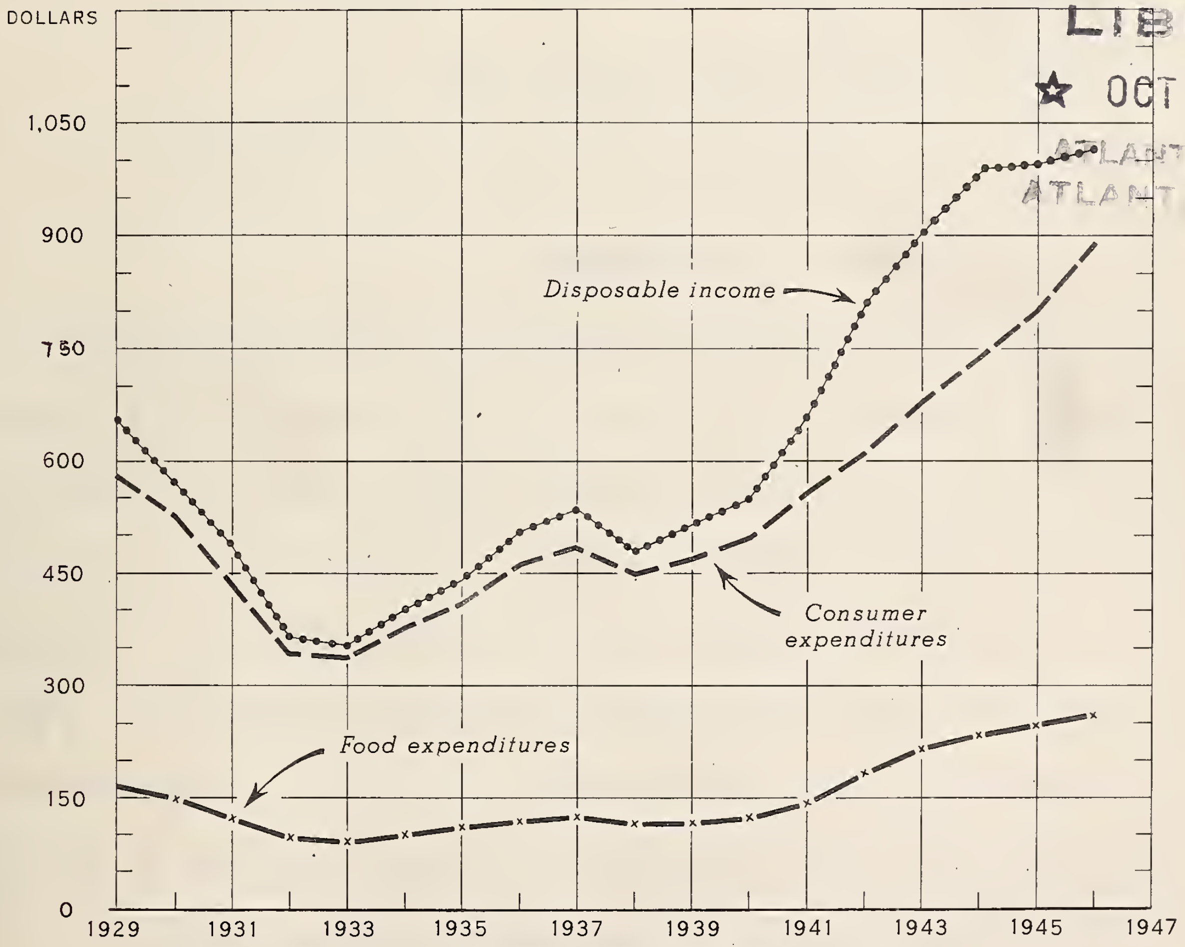
COMPARISON OF DISPOSABLE INCOME, CONSUMER EXPENDITURES, AND FOOD EXPENDITURES PER PERSON, 1929-46



DATA FROM BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE, 1929-45, 1946-BAE ESTIMATES.
ESTIMATES FOR 1945 AND 1946 ARE PRELIMINARY
FOOD EXPENDITURES 1941-45 ADJUSTED FOR ARMED FORCES EATING FROM CIVILIAN SUPPLIES.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45035 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The increase in the spread between disposable income (excluding direct personal taxes) and consumer expenditures since 1941 is due to very large savings of individuals. Food expenditures are now twice as large as the average in 1935-39 and account for a larger proportion of total consumer expenditure than in that period, although less than during the war. In 1946, consumers appear to be spending somewhat more of their disposable income for food than they did on the average in 1935-39, or in the war years.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, September 30, 1946

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SUMMARY

Food supplies for civilian consumption in 1947 are expected to continue at about the high level reached in 1946. Per capita food consumption in 1946 is estimated to be about 15 percent higher than the 1935-39 average. The record rate of food consumption this year despite the very high level of exports was made possible by near record food production and the greatly reduced proportion of the food supplies needed for military use. Food production next year may not be quite as high as in 1946, but exports probably will be much smaller. There are likely to be short supplies of some individual foods, just as in the past two or three years, as long as the demand is maintained by peak consumer incomes and controlled prices. Other foods will be plentiful or excluded from price controls.

No particular change from 1946 is expected in the supplies and average consumption for the year of meat, chicken and turkey, skim milk products, vegetable fats and oils, fresh deciduous fruit, canned fruit juices, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and dry beans. Somewhat smaller supplies of eggs

fresh vegetables, and total milk in all forms appear likely. The consumption of fluid milk and cream and ice cream may be somewhat reduced by higher prices, particularly if there is a decline in consumer purchasing power in the latter part of the year. On the other hand, supplies of many foods, such as butter, lard, evaporated milk, cheese, citrus fruit, canned and frozen fruit, wheat flour, corn products, rice, sugar, and fish are indicated to be somewhat larger in 1947 than in 1946.

Some of the highlights on the individual commodities follow. Supplies of meat will continue below demand at new ceilings, and even after upward price adjustments expected as subsidies are withdrawn. This was shown in part by the strong pressure of demand upon prices of meat in July and August during a period of heavy marketings. Some of the unfilled demand for meats is likely to be reflected in greater demand for poultry products and may contribute to higher prices for these products. Prices of dairy and poultry products are not now controlled. As a result of dairy products being free of price controls, butter output has increased somewhat, although production of other dairy products has fallen off to some degree. The heavy demand for dairy products in relation to the available supply is illustrated by recent price rises. These trends may be expected to continue in 1947 because milk production is expected to be somewhat smaller than in 1946. Some moderate improvement in the tight fats and oils situation is forecast for next year. Less lard will be exported, and butter output is likely to be somewhat higher.

Fairly large supplies of fruit are indicated for the coming year. Imports of tropical fruits are rising. Most of the unusually heavy packs of canned fruits and fruit juices will go to civilians. Furthermore, a record citrus crop is in prospect. Production of fresh vegetables is, of course, dependent on prices and growing conditions from season to season, but, judging from recent years, supplies are likely to continue very high. Potatoes from this year's late crop will be plentiful in the early part of 1947, and another large crop appears likely for next year; however, sweetpotatoes will be short. The supplies of food grains are expected to recover from the shortages in mid-1946. Less wheat will be exported and more corn products will be available because of this year's record crop of good quality corn. Sugar will continue short throughout 1947, but supplies may be expected to improve over 1946 in the latter part of the year.

Available supplies of most nutrients are expected to continue at a high level in 1947 if the present enrichment program for white flour and bread is continued. A slightly larger per capita supply of food energy is anticipated because of prospective increases in the consumption of grain products, fats, and sugar. The decrease in fluid milk and cream consumption will be reflected in somewhat smaller supplies of calcium and riboflavin. The quantities of all major nutrients except carbohydrate will be well above prewar levels.

Total disappearance of food in 1946, including exports is estimated to be somewhat smaller than in the past two years. However, about 89 percent of the year's food appears to be going into civilian channels, 8 percent for export, and 3 percent for military use. (See table 3) A much larger proportion of the total food supply has been available for civilians in 1946 than in the years 1942-45.

Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption and civilian per capita food consumption, 1943-45 preliminary estimates for 1946, with percentage comparisons.

(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1943	1944	1945	1946 Prel. 1/	1946 as a percentage of 1945
Food grains 2/	116	148	156	159	102
Truck crops 3/	124	137	143	156	109
Fruits and nuts 4/	108	123	112	130	116
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 5/	125	106	111	118	106
Sugar crops 6/	81	81	94	107	114
Total food crops 7/	116	129	130	140	108
Meat animals 8/	150	155	145	138	95
Poultry 9/	152	153	155	143	92
Dairy products 10/	113	115	120	116	97
Total food livestock	138	141	139	132	95
Food production	133	138	136	134	99
Agricultural production, food and non-food	128	136	132	131	99
Civilian per capita food consumption	106	111	112	115	103

1/ Production indexes are based on the actual and intended plantings, preliminary crop indications, as of Sept. 1st, and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products for the calendar year 1946.

2/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat.

3/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes, and watermelons) and truck crops for processing (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes).

4/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts.

5/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, sweetpotatoes.

6/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup.

7/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops.

8/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs.

9/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers.

10/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.-Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary estimates for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 prel.	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Percent	Percent
Meats (dressed weight)							
Beef	54.8	49.6	53.4	58.7	56-59	105	98
Veal	8.0	7.9	11.3	11.6	10	125	86
Lamb and mutton	6.7	6.4	6.7	7.2	7	104	97
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	72.4	77.0	60.2	67-69	121	113
Total meats	125.6	136.3	148.4	137.7	140-145	113	103
Poultry Produced							
Eggs 2/	37.3	43.1	44.0	49.0	45.9	123	94
Chicken (dressed weight)	17.9	28.0	23.6	25.3	22.6	126	89
Turkey (dressed weight)	2.6	3.4	3.4	4.3	4.4	169	102
Dairy products							
Total milk (whole milk equivalent)	801	761	789	799	813	101	102
Cheese	5.5	5.0	4.9	5.9	6.9	125	117
Cond. and evap. milk	16.7	18.6	16.1	18.3	19.0	114	104
Fluid milk and cream	340	403	421	438	431	127	98
Fats and oils							
Butter, farm and factory (actual weight)	16.7	11.7	11.9	10.9	10.0	60	92
Lard	11.0	14.6	13.8	12.0	11.3	103	94
Margarine	2.3	3.1	3.1	3.3	2.9	126	88
Shortening	11.7	9.3	9.2	10.0	9.6	82	96
Other edible fats & oils	6.3	6.4	6.7	6.0	6.0	95	100
Total fats & oils 3/	48.0	45.6	44.8	42.2	39.8	83	94
Fruits							
Fresh							
Citrus	48.8	59.6	67.8	65.7	60.4	124	92
Apples (commercial)	30.2	25.1	26.5	23.0	24.6	81	107
Other (excluding melons)	59.5	33.5	50.2	56.0	57.5	97	103
Total fresh	138.5	120.9	144.5	144.7	142.5	103	98
Processed							
Canned fruit	15.2	13.0	9.4	15.0	16.9	111	113
Canned juices	4.1	6.6	10.0	10.0	15.2	371	152
Frozen	4/ .8	1.3	2.0	2.4	2.8	350	117
Dried	5.7	5.9	6.4	5.9	5.4	95	92
Vegetables							
Fresh	235	236	255	268	276	117	103
Canned	31.1	37.8	34.7	44.6	45.5	146	102
Frozen	4/ .4	.7	1.6	1.7	2.1	525	124
Potatoes	131	133	128	129	130	99	101

Table 2.-Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capit basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary estimates for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/ - contd.

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 Prel.	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Percent	Percent
Sweetpotatoes	23.5	21.6	20.7	20.0	19.2	82	96
Beans, dry edible	8.8	8.8	7.9	8.0	7.5	85	93
Peas, dry field	.5	1.0	.6	1.3	.9	180	69
Canned soups & baby foods	5.2	6.9	8.8	10.1	11.3	217	112
Sugar (refined)	96.5	80.3	89.0	73.8	72.6	75	98
Grains							
Corn products:							
Corn meal	22.9	21.0	20.0	19.0	18	79	95
Corn sirup	7.7	12.1	12.1	12.0	11.6	151	97
Corn starch	1.3	1.8	1.4	1.8	1.8	138	100
Corn sugar	2.7	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.4	126	89
Breakfast food	1.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.3	135	88
Hominy	1.2	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	125	88
Oats:							
Oatmeal	3.9	4.0	3.2	4.1	4.4	113	107
Barley:							
Barley food products 5/	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	125	100
Wheat:							
Flour 6/	153.1	162.7	162.2	164.2	154	101	94
Breakfast food	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.4	92	92
Rye:							
Rye flour	2.6	3.1	2.6	2.6	2.3	88	88
Rice, milled 7/	5.6	5.8	5.0	4.7	4.4	79	94
Beverages							
Coffee 8/	14.0	13.0	15.8	16.7	17.2	123	103
Tea	.67	.46	.53	.59	.64	96	108
Cocoa beans	4.4	2.9	3.6	4.0	4.1	93	102
Peanuts (shelled)	4.4	6.3	6.2	6.6	6.0	136	91

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official Census estimates of total population adjusted for under-enumeration of children under 5 and for military personnel not eating out of civilian supplies. 1/ Data for 1946 are preliminary; calendar year basis except for dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; fresh citrus fruits, peanuts, and dry field peas on a crop-year basis, rice on August 1 year. All years begin in the year designated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year and rice which begins in August of previous year. 2/ In terms of number of eggs, the apparent per capita consumption was 298 in 1935-39, 345 in 1943, 352 in 1944, 392 in 1945 and 367 indicated for 1946. 3/ Includes actual weight of butter, fat content of other items. 4/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 5/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent. 6/ Includes white, whole wheat, and Semolina flour. 7/ Revised to exclude table rice used by brewers. 8/ Green bean basis.

Table 3. - Total food disappearance: Source and distribution, 1935-39 average and 1940 to 1946 1/

Year	Total food disappearance	Source of total food: Food production	Source of total food: Imports	Source of total food: Reduction in stocks	Source of total food: Increase in stocks	Distribution by claimants: Civilian	Distribution by claimants: Military including military civilian feeding	2/ Department of Agriculture: Net purchases	2/ Department of Agriculture: Shipments	2/ Department of Agriculture: Reduction in stocks	2/ Department of Agriculture: Increase in stocks	Commercial exports and shipments 3/
	Percentage of food disappearance in each year											
1935-39	100.0	93.7	6.4		.1	97.4						2.6
1940	100.0	94.9	5.5		.4	97.8						2.2
1941	100.0	94.5	6.0		.5	93.7	2.1	2.5	2.3		.2	1.7
1942	100.0	94.1	3.8	2.1		86.3	6.5	6.2	5.2		1.0	1.0
1943	100.0	95.3	4.9		.2	78.9	11.7	8.1	7.1		1.0	1.3
1944	100.0	94.5	4.8	.7		80.3	12.7	5.8	6.5	.7		1.2
1945	100.0	94.1	4.8	1.1		81.3	12.2	4.4	4.8	.4		2.1
1946 Prel.	100.0	95.6	4.5		.1	89.1	3.0	4.9	6.2	1.3		3.0
	Percentage of 1935-39 food disappearance											
1935-39	100.0	93.7	6.4		.1	97.4						2.6
1940	109.7	104.1	6.0		.4	107.2						2.5
1941	114.1	107.8	6.9		.6	106.9	2.4	2.8	2.6		.2	2.0
1942	124.6	117.2	4.7	2.7		107.4	8.1	7.8	6.5		1.3	1.3
1943	129.7	123.7	6.3		.3	102.3	15.2	10.5	9.3		1.2	1.7
1944	136.8	129.3	6.6	.9		109.9	17.4	7.9	8.8	.9		1.6
1945	135.5	127.4	6.6	1.5		110.3	16.6	5.8	6.5	.7		2.8
1946 Prel.	131.4	125.6	5.9		.1	117.2	3.9	6.4	8.2	1.8		3.9

1/ The upper section of the table divides the total disappearance in each year (1) according to the source of the food, and (2) according to its distribution. Both the total disappearance figure and the breakdown are on an index number basis; that is, they represent quantities weighted by average farm prices in the period 1935-39. The disappearance figure includes both domestically produced and imported foods. The lower portion of the table contains the same data expressed as a percentage of total food disappearance in 1935-39 instead of total disappearance in each year. 2/ The quantities assigned to the Department of Agriculture are principally food for lend-lease. These quantities are measured in two ways: (1) in terms of Department of Agriculture purchases from commercial channels, and (2) in terms of shipments out of the country. When measured in terms of purchases, additions to Department of Agriculture stocks included. When measured in terms of shipments, additions to stocks are shown separately. Department of Agriculture shipments were smaller than the total quantities purchased from 1941 to 1943 and stocks were built up. In 1944 to 1946, however, shipments exceeded purchases and stocks were decreased. 3/ The 1935-39, 1940-41 exports and shipments are strictly commercial. For the war years, they approximate the commercial portion as indicated by total exports and shipments less the exports assignable to the Department of Agriculture.

Table 4.-Nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945, and preliminary estimates for 1946 with **percentage** comparisons 1/

Nutrients	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 prel.	1946 as percentage of - 1935-39	
							1935-39	1945
Food energy .	Calories	3,250	3,390	3,460	3,350	3,320	102	99
Protein	Grams	89	98	100	101	101	113	100
Fat	Grams	132	141	144	138	139	105	101
Carbohydrate.	Grams	428	430	439	426	418	98	98
Calcium	Grams	.90	1.04	1.05	1.09	1.12	124	103
Iron	Milligrams	13.8	16.5	18.2	18.7	18.7	136	100
Vitamin A ...	Int'l units	8,100	9,200	9,400	9,800	9,800	121	100
Thiamine	Milligrams	1.54	2.18	2.27	2.21	2.28	148	103
Riboflavin ..	Milligrams	1.86	2.20	2.49	2.52	2.55	137	101
Niacin	Milligrams	15.4	18.8	21.3	21.4	21.3	138	100
Ascorbic Acid	Milligrams	115	126	135	141	142	123	101

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on the basis of estimates of apparent civilian consumption (retail basis), including estimates of consumption in town and city gardens, supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

No deductions have been made in the nutrient estimates for the loss or waste of food in the home or for the destruction or loss of nutrients during the preparation of food. Deductions have been made for inedible refuse.

The data for iron, thiamine, riboflavin and niacin include the amounts of these nutrients added to white bread and flour under the enrichment program.

NUTRITIONAL OUTLOOK 1/

Available supplies of most nutrients are expected to continue at a high level in 1947. This forecast is based on estimates of the 1947 food supplies and the assumption that the present bread and flour enrichment program will continue.

Per capita supplies of food energy may be somewhat larger next year than in 1946. The increase in food energy would result from prospective higher consumption of grain products, fats, and sugar. Slight decreases in calcium and riboflavin are indicated on the basis of lower estimated consumption of fluid milk and cream. If the enrichment program is discontinued, per capita supplies of riboflavin, iron, niacin, and thiamine will range from ten to twenty-five percent below 1944-46.

Continuation of large commercial and home production of vegetables is in prospect, and is essential for the maintenance of the supplies of vitamins A and C at the high level of 1945 and 1946. The anticipated record consumption of citrus fruit will also be an important source of vitamin C.

Significantly larger quantities of all nutrients are indicated for 1947 than were available in the prewar years, 1935-39.

Prospective per capita supplies of nutrients for 1947, the second year after World War II can be compared with those available in 1920, the second year after World War I. Food energy supplies will be approximately the same as for 1920. Larger quantities of all nutrients will be available. Greater estimated consumption of milk, vegetables and fruit and the assumed enrichment of grain products during 1947 will account for increases over 1920 of from twenty to thirty-five percent in the per capita supplies of calcium, iron, and vitamins.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

MEATS

Outlook for 1947

Civilian supplies of meat are expected to be much the same in 1947 as in 1946 when consumption may be 140 to 145 pounds, per capita wholesale dressed weight. Meat production in 1947 may be as large as this year and less meat will be exported. But some increase in stocks, now unusually low, may occur next year. There may be somewhat more beef and veal, but less pork, lamb and mutton available for domestic consumption. Civilian supplies are not likely to exceed the 148-pound rate for 1944, the highest since 1911. Accordingly, they will continue short of demand, despite the 13 percent rise in prices since June 30, 1946, and the prospect for further increases in retail meat price ceilings next January and April as subsidies are removed.

Pork production will be reduced in the spring and summer of 1947, reflecting the sharp decline in the size of this year's fall pig crop. But this reduction will be partly offset by delay in marketings of 1946 spring pigs

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1/ Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics and by a possible increase in the 1947 spring pig crop, largely for market in late 1947 and early 1948. Because of a tendency among producers to delay marketings of cattle this fall and because of the increased numbers of cattle going to feed lots, beef and veal production may be larger in 1947 than in 1946. Lamb and mutton production probably will be less than in 1946, with the prospect of a smaller 1947 lamb crop and fewer lambs to be fed this winter.

The number of cattle to be grain fed in 1947 probably will be greater than a year earlier and supplies of better grade beef will be larger than in 1946. Supplies of better grade beef will be small in the remainder of 1946. The number of cattle on grain feed on August 1 in the Corn Belt was estimated to be 45 percent less than a year earlier. Also, marketings from feed lots were large in August.

Meat production, though much below the 1944 peak, will continue large for several years. Pork production is likely to be maintained at a high level. This outlook is based on the fact that hog prices are to be supported by the Government at not less than 90 percent of parity at least through 1948. In addition, improved technological and cultural practices now make it possible to produce large corn crops with average weather. Another large corn crop in 1947 would favor hog production at a higher level than at present. Total cattle numbers are still larger than in any year prior to the war and beef production for several years ahead is likely to continue large relative to prewar.

Procurement of meat for military use in 1947 will be smaller than the 750 million pounds estimated for 1946. The desires for American meat abroad continue high, with livestock numbers still low in Europe. However, even those countries that have large supplies of dollar exchange are not likely to procure nearly as large quantities of meats from the U. S. as are being exported in 1946.

Review of 1946

Per capita consumption of meat for the year 1946 is now estimated to be between 140 and 145 pounds, but there has been considerable variation during the year. Supplies were large during the winter and spring. Meat output in the first half of 1946 was almost equal to production in the comparable period of 1945. Military procurement was small. Procurement for export was stepped up in the spring. Civilian supplies became scarcer in May and June, when livestock was held back in view of the possibility of the end of price controls. Large supplies were available in July and August from near-record production. The lapse of price controls encouraged the marketing of animals previously held back, as well as of those normally marketed in the summer. Also, many animals not yet in prime condition for marketing were rushed to market in this period, thus contributing to a more than seasonal decline in September. Another factor in the September decline was the increase in feeding as plentiful feed supplies became available from the new crops. Meat production in September was the lowest in years. Production is likely to remain relatively low in October, but will increase within the next few months. Marketings of 1946 spring pigs will probably reach their seasonally high levels in December or January.

Production also will climb because of the delayed marketings of grass fed cattle which in previous years usually reached a peak in October.

Military purchases of meat in 1946 are likely to total around 750 million pounds, compared with net purchases of 3.6 billion in 1945. Exports and shipments, including supplies from Army stocks are likely to total 1.2 billion to 1.4 billion pounds compared with 1.2 billion in 1945. Purchases of meat by the Department of Agriculture for export were large in the first half of 1946. Procurement of meat by the Commodity Credit Corporation since June has been small, but some meat has been exported from Government stocks. The Government recently announced that after September 30 it will discontinue purchases of meat for export. The UNRRA program, accounting for 40 and 50 percent of 1946 exports and shipments, is slated for termination on December 31 in Europe and on March 31, 1947 in the Orient.

Commercial meat stocks in September were the lowest on record for the month. October 1 stocks were also low, reflecting the reduced meat production in September. Less than the usual increase in stocks is anticipated in the remainder of 1946, with demand expected to be strong and supplies short.

FISH

Outlook for 1947

Slightly larger supplies of fish are expected to be available for civilian consumption next year. However, they are not expected to reach prewar proportions until 1948, when canned fish supplies should return to normal. Landings of fish in 1946 were smaller than expected, owing to strikes in the Boston area and on the West Coast, and because of the small salmon catch. Demand for fish will continue heavy with short supplies of meat anticipated during part of the year and the continuation of a high level of consumer purchasing power.

Processing of frozen fish is expected to continue its upward trend as new inland markets are opened. Stocks of frozen fish in cold storage on September 1, 1946 were at a record level.

Supplies of canned fish for domestic consumption in 1946-47 are indicated to be perhaps 10 to 15 percent below the prewar level of 5 pounds per capita, but larger than for several years. This year's pack may reach 600 million pounds, 7 percent below the 1945 pack, but non-civilian needs are much reduced from last year. The drop in pack results principally from the sharp decrease in the salmon pack to the lowest level since 1922. However, the tuna pack was substantially larger this year. Next year's pack of canned fish is likely to be somewhat larger on the basis of indicated improvements in supplies, materials, labor and better working conditions in the canneries. Set-asides of salmon and pilchards for Government purchase are still in effect for the 1946-47 season. Export demand for canned fish probably will continue large next year.

Much of this country's supply of cured fish is imported. During the war imports have been held down by reduced world supplies and international allocation of available supplies. When salted ground fish are removed from international controls, imports may be expected to return to their prewar levels of around 100 million pounds.

Review of 1946

Domestic production of fresh and frozen fish in 1946 is running slightly larger than last year. However, with increases in the civilian population owing to demobilization, per capita supplies of fresh and frozen fish are smaller. Landings of fish in the Boston area, a particularly important source of supply, were considerably reduced in the first 6 months of this year by a strike. A larger proportion of the landings have been frozen. This resulted in smaller supplies of fresh fish and shell fish during the first part of the year. Supplies of fresh and frozen fish will be plentiful during the rest of 1946. More canned fish is now being marketed through domestic channels because of the smaller takings for military and export use from the new pack. Civilian consumption from the 1945 pack is estimated at about 4 pounds per capita.

POULTRY AND EGGS

Outlook for 1947

The supplies of poultry products for civilian consumption in 1947 will be about the same as in 1946. On a per capita basis, there will be somewhat fewer eggs, slightly less of chicken, but a little more turkey. Procurement of poultry products for military use probably will be somewhat smaller next year, and the export of eggs may be reduced.

Available egg supplies may be 5 percent or so smaller in 1947. Although egg production will be down 6 to 9 percent, the carry-over of eggs on January 1, 1947 may be as much as 60 million dozen higher than the year before. The expected decline in output of eggs next year would result from a reduction of perhaps 7 percent in the number of hens and pullets on farms at the beginning of the year. A smaller number was raised in 1946 because of the feed shortage. Egg prices at retail will average higher in 1947, in part due to the statutory requirement for maintaining the prices farmers received for eggs at 90 percent of parity. The higher cost of eggs for consumers probably will bring about some decrease in consumption from the average rate of 367 eggs in 1946. However, egg consumption per capita in 1947 is likely to exceed that in any year prior to 1945. The general supply and demand situation for eggs in the United States in 1947 would be reasonably well in balance if 100 to 200 million dozen were procured for export. If not, price support purchases may prove to be necessary.

Chicken production in 1947 is likely to be about as large as in 1946. Prices may reach a new record. Consumer purchasing power is expected to continue relatively high and meat supplies may be moderately short, particularly during the first half of the year. Broiler output is expected to recover from its decline in 1946, because of increased feed supplies and favorable returns.

Supplies of turkey for consumption in 1947 will continue the upward trend, and consumption is expected to exceed the 4 1/2 pound per capita average reached in 1946. Production of turkey next year is likely to exceed the 1946 output and may reach a new record. Demand for turkey will be strong during the spring and summer, and supplies of feed will be ample for greater production.

Review of 1946

Supplies of poultry products were plentiful during the first 8 months of 1946, at prices not much different from those in 1945. Egg consumption per capita for the year declined about 20 eggs from the 1945 record, but exceeded that of any other year. Few eggs were purchased by the Department of Agriculture for price support, but about 300 million dozen, shell-egg equivalent, were bought to fill foreign requirements. Egg production for the year is tentatively indicated at about 4,900 million dozen, 3 percent below 1945. All of the decline in production is taking place in the second half of the year.

Near-record consumption of eggs is expected during the rest of 1946. As supplies of meat continue below demand, some of this demand is likely to be shifted to eggs. Prices of top-grade eggs will be higher than last year, but low-grade eggs probably will sell at about the same prices as in the latter part of 1945. All poultry products are excluded from price control under the Emergency Price Control Act of 1946.

Chicken supplies were very high during the first half of the year. Farm slaughter was relatively heavy because of the tight feed situation, and supplies of commercial broilers were fairly plentiful. Although large supplies of chicken are in cold storage and will be available for consumption during the next few months, broiler and farm chicken slaughter is down and the consumption of chicken will be smaller than in the latter part of 1945. Prices of chicken are expected to be comparatively high.

Civilian consumption of turkey will set another new record in 1946. Although the number of turkeys raised in 1946 is tentatively indicated at about 9 percent below 1945, the large carry-over of stocks from 1945 and the sharp reduction in military procurement are contributing to greater consumption of turkey by civilians. So far this year, turkey prices have averaged below 1945. However, despite the record supply of turkeys for the holiday season this year, the strong demand for turkey is expected to push turkey prices above last year's high levels.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Outlook for 1947

Civilian supplies of milk and other dairy products in 1947 are likely to average slightly less per capita than the 813 pounds (milk equivalent on a fats solids basis) consumed in 1946, but about equal to the 1935-39 average of 800 pounds. On a nonfat solids basis, civilian per capita consumption of milk products will be nearly one-third larger than in the prewar years and about the same as in recent years. (See table 6). Total milk production on farms in 1947 is likely to be within a billion pounds of the 119 billion pounds indicated for 1946.

Farmers will begin the coming year with fewer milk cows than last January, but this probably will be at least partly offset by a record high output per cow. Procurement of dairy products for the armed forces will be somewhat smaller next year. Withdrawals from market channels for export in 1947 may be about the same as this year, although substantial shipments were made from Government stocks of dairy products in 1946.

Consumption of fluid milk and cream may decline moderately next year from the 431-pound average per capita estimated for 1946, although it undoubtedly will be much greater than the prewar rate of 340 pounds. Some decline in fluid milk consumption is likely because of considerably higher prices than the average for 1946, particularly if there is a decline in consumer incomes in the latter part of the year. With relatively strong consumer demand in prospect for fluid milk and manufactured products through much of 1947 and the prospective slight decrease in the total milk supply, there is little probability of much recovery of butter production and consumption from the low level of 1946. Civilian supplies of butter in 1947 may not exceed 11 pounds per person compared with the record low of 10 pounds in 1946 and the prewar average of 16.7 pounds.

Domestic consumption of all major manufactured dairy products except butter was gradually increasing up to the outbreak of Worl War II. New uses and new methods of preparation were contributing to the greater demand for manufactured dairy products. Evaporated milk was widely used for baby feeding and in manufactured products. During the war, dried whole milk replaced liquid whole milk or other milk products for many manufacturing purposes. Large amounts of dried skim milk were being used by the bakery industry before the war. The increase in the sales of packaged ice cream by grocery stores contributed to the high level of ice cream consumption. The upward trends in consumption which were arrested during the war are expected to continue in 1947. The consumption of evaporated milk and cheese may reach a new high record in the next year. The high birth rate and some substitution of canned milk for higher-priced fluid milk will tend to raise the demand for evaporated and condensed milk. In addition to the resumption of the long-time upward trend in the demand for cheese, there islikely to be some substitution of cheese for short supplies of meat during part of 1947.

Review of 1946

Civilian supplies of all dairy products in 1946 are estimated at about 813 pounds per capita, whole milk equivalent, on a fat solids basis. Some shifts from the wartime pattern 1/ in utilization of milk supplies are taking place as a result of the removal of price controls last June 30. Butter production increased contraseasonally in July. However, it is still too early to determine the full effects of free prices for dairy products, in part because of the prevailing possibility of reinstatement of controls over prices.

Milk production on farms in 1946 is estimated at 119 billion pounds, compared with 122.2 in 1945. Out of this milk supply, civilians have consumed about 431 pounds per person of fluid milk and cream (whole milk equivalent). This is slightly less than the 1945 record, but higher than

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1/ See "Wartime Changes in Food Consumption," Part II, Section B, Dairy Products, p. 23 of this issue.

any previous year. Butter production this year appears to be the lowest since 1902, the total being perhaps 1,450 million pounds, creamery and farm combined. The armed forces are procuring only about 40 million pounds. As a result, butter supplies for civilians are estimated at 10 pounds per capita. Record civilian consumption of whole or part whole milk cheese is indicated for 1946 to be 6.8 pounds per capita. Only about one-third as much cheese was purchased for export this year as last, and military takings will total around 15 million pounds, compared with about 75 million in 1945. These reductions have more than offset the drop of around 65 million pounds in output of cheese. Similarly, the purchase of condensed and evaporated milk for export and for military use has been greatly reduced from the 1945 rate. Thus, domestic consumption has been near record of 19.2 pounds established in 1940. Large quantities of dried whole and dried skim milk have been available for civilian uses. Consumption of skim milk products such as cottage cheese and chocolate drink appears to have continued at or near high wartime level.

FATS AND OILS

Outlook for 1947

Present prospects indicate a slight to moderate increase in civilian supplies of food fats and oils in 1947 over the low of 40 pounds per capita in 1946. Butter supplies may be somewhat larger, perhaps as high as 11 pounds per capita compared with 10 pounds in 1946. Butter output may recover slightly next year under the impetus of higher prices. Supplies of lard for civilian consumption probably will be larger than this year, as lard exports are expected to decline more than the anticipated drop in output. The sharp reduction in the 1946 fall pig crop will be reflected in lower lard output next spring and summer. Production of margarine, shortening, and edible oils probably will be maintained at about the 1946 levels. The output of the principal oils and fats used in these products is not likely to differ very much in the first 9 months of 1947 from the output of a year earlier. There may be some increase in use of imported oils in food products in 1947. A moderate reduction in domestic soybean oil production is likely on the basis of September 1 prospects for the 1946 soybean crop. Cottonseed oil output will continue at the low level of 1945-46, as the 1946 crop of cotton is indicated to be only slightly larger than a year earlier. Production of corn and peanut oils may increase somewhat, as a result of a larger commercial supply of corn and diversion of more peanuts to crushing than in 1945-46 year.

The average rate of consumption of food fats in 1947 will still be materially below the prewar level of 48 pounds per person. Butter will continue in shorter supply than other fats and oils in relation to prewar levels. Demand for food fats at ceiling prices will remain in excess of supply. Removal of price ceilings probably would be followed by an advance in prices of food fats and oils, but a decline in prices might follow in the latter part of 1947.

Review of 1946

Supplies of food fats available for United States civilians in 1946 are now estimated at 40 pounds per person, slightly less than the 42-pound average consumed in 1945 and much below the 48-pound rate for 1935-39. The principal factors in this decline are smaller butter production, continued heavy exports of lard, and substantially smaller stocks of lard on hand at the beginning of 1946 than a year earlier.

Consumption of butter per person in 1946 is estimated at 10 pounds, actual weight, about a pound below the 1945 rate and almost 7 pounds below the prewar average. Butter production this year is estimated at 1,450 million pounds, the smallest since 1902. Fortunately, very little butter had to be procured for the use of the armed forces this year.

Although total output of lard in 1946 probably will be about as large as in 1945, civilian consumption will be less per person. Exports of lard are large again this year, although they probably will total less than the 600 million pounds shipped in 1945. Exports of lard this year are almost entirely from current production, whereas almost half of the 600 million pounds shipped in 1945 was from Government stocks carried over at the beginning of the year. Stocks at the beginning of 1946 were near minimum working levels.

Production of margarine in 1946 for domestic consumption will total moderately less than in 1945 as the result of smaller manufacturers' quotas of fats and oils for use in margarine in the first half of the year than in the first part of 1945. The civilian supply of margarine per person this year is estimated at about 2.9 pounds (fat content), compared with 3.3 pounds last year. Manufacturers' quotas of oils and fats for the production of shortening, cooking and salad oils for civilian use are moderately larger for 1946 as a whole than in 1945. However, the increase in the civilian population brings the supply per person to about the same as the 16 pounds consumed in 1945, although 2 pounds below the 1935-39 average. During that prewar period, the use of shortening was unusually large as a result of the relatively small supply of lard after the drought of the mid 30's.

Fruit

Outlook for 1947

Total supplies of fruit in 1947 may be as large as the record supplies now indicated for 1946. The carry-over of stocks of fresh apples and canned fruits and fruit juices into 1947 will be larger than the carry-over into 1946. Production of citrus fruit will be larger than this year. Also, further increases are indicated in imports of bananas and pineapples in 1947. Increased supplies from these sources are expected to offset any likely drop in deciduous fruit output below the ~~near-~~record crop of 1946. Civilian supplies are likely to averag slightly larger next year, ~~particularly~~ for canned fruits. A further reduction in military procurement of fresh and processed fruits is probable, but exports of some fruits may increase moderately. Total exports of fruit will remain well below prewar levels, and will take only a small proportion of total fruit supplies.

During the next 6 months, supplies of fresh apples, citrus, cranberries, and canned fruits and fruit juices are expected to be larger than a year earlier. The 1946 apple crop is of about average size, whereas it was very short last year. A record citrus crop has now begun to move to market. The record packs of canned fruit and fruit juices for consumption in 1946-47 probably will permit very high average consumption. Prospective supplies of fresh pears and grapes are about the same as last winter, and frozen fruit supplies are slightly larger. Somewhat less dried fruits, particularly raisins, will be available because of the smaller pack this year.

Consumer demand for fruits is expected to continue strong during at least the first part of 1947. Prices are likely to be well above prewar, but they may drop somewhat from the 1946 high. In fact, some downward price adjustment has already occurred for the larger crops such as grapefruit and apples.

Review of 1946

Total supplies of fruit in 1946 have been moderately larger than supplies in 1945. The increase resulted from the record large 1945-46 citrus crop, a near-record deciduous crop, and increased imports of tropical fruits, mostly bananas and pineapples. As of September 1, this year's crop of deciduous fruits was estimated to be 17 percent larger than last year and 12 percent above the 1935-44 average. Although record or near-record crops of peaches, pears, plums, apricots, grapes, and cherries have been produced this year, most of the increase in deciduous fruits this year over last comes from the increase in the apple crop. Fruits generally have been more plentiful this year than last, but supplies of fresh apples in the first half of the year and of oranges during the summer were considerably smaller than last year. On the other hand, larger supplies of fresh strawberries and various other fruits were available during the late spring and summer than in the comparable 1945 season.

Civilian fruit supplies have averaged somewhat larger than in 1945. Most of the increase is in processed fruits. Consumption of fresh fruit per person in 1946 is expected to be about as large as the 145 pounds estimated for 1945. An unusually large percentage of the fruit crops is being processed this year. Because of the larger 1946 packs and reduced procurement for military use, civilian consumption of canned fruits this year may average about 17 pounds per capita, about 2 pounds more than the 15-pound prewar average which was reached again in 1945. The distribution of supplies of processed fruits over the year has been quite uneven as it was in 1945. Supplies were short at the beginning of the year and then became relatively plentiful with the marketing of the new packs. Per capita consumption of fruit juices may set a new record in 1946, perhaps as high as 15 pounds. This record quantity would be half again as large as the previous record set in 1944 and equalled in 1945. Canned fruit juices have been abundant throughout the year, and have filled in during periods of short supplies of canned fruits and of fresh fruits. Consumption of frozen fruit is expected to set a new record of about 2.8 pounds per person. In contrast, per capita consumption of dried fruits has been slightly smaller than the 6-pound rate maintained in 1945.

VEGETABLES

Outlook for 1947

Both fresh and processed vegetables will continue to be plentiful in 1947. Supplies of fresh vegetables are not likely to be quite as large as the 276-pound average consumption per capita estimated for 1946, but will still be considerably above the prewar average of 235 pounds. The increase in consumption of vegetables since 1935-39, particularly of leafy, green, and yellow vegetables, has been important in the general improvement in the average level of nutrition. Prices of fresh vegetables in 1947 probably will be below the former ceilings, although considerably above prewar levels.

In 1947, record large supplies of canned and frozen vegetables will move into distribution from this year's record packs. Canned vegetable supplies in 1947 probably will be sufficiently large to permit average consumption of from 44 to 46 pounds per capita. Frozen vegetable consumption may rise to somewhat more than 2 pounds per capita.

Potatoes will be abundant at moderate prices, at least through the first half of 1947. Large supplies will be available from this year's late crop. Goals for production of potatoes in 1947 are planned to provide for about average domestic supplies. The sweetpotato crop this year was about average in size. However, because of very strong demand, supplies will continue somewhat short except during the peak marketing season and prices are likely to remain near present levels.

Retail supplies of dry beans are expected to continue somewhat short of demand at ceiling prices during the coming year. The 1946 crop, cleaned basis, is estimated to be about 12 percent larger than the 1945 crop. However, because of the increase in civilian population, the quantity available will be smaller than the prewar average of 9 pounds per person.

With the crop of dry field peas this year now fairly well assured at nearly 50 percent larger than average, supplies of dry peas are expected to be more than ample for domestic demand, leaving substantial quantities available for export.

Review of 1946

Consumption of fresh vegetables is setting a new record again this year--276 pounds per capita. Yields have been running well above average, but most of the increased production is due to increased acreage. Consumption of canned vegetables also is expected to set a new record in 1946, estimated at 45.5 pounds per capita, compared with slightly less than 45 pounds in 1945 and 31 pounds in 1935-39.

Potatoes have been plentiful throughout the year. Price support operations of potatoes have been necessary under the statutory provision for maintaining farm prices. Exports and outshipments of potatoes in 1946 may amount to about 9.5 million bushels. Sweetpotatoes have been short through most of the year. Consumption of sweetpotatoes is estimated at 19 pounds per capita, about 24 percent below the prewar average of 23.5 pounds. Dry beans have also been short. The 1945 dry bean crop was smaller than in the previous war years, and exports had to come out of current supplies instead of out of stocks as in 1945.

Commercial production of vegetables for fresh market is expected to be slightly higher than last fall and between one-third and one-half larger than the 10-year (1935-44) average. Particularly plentiful items for early fall are snap beans, celery and spinach, and lettuce. The record summer crop of dry onions will provide plentiful supplies at low prices. Only early fall cucumbers and green peas and fall lima beans will be below average in production. Retail prices this fall for most vegetables are expected to be slightly lower than a year before. During the peak marketing season, even sweetpotatoes will be plentiful. New-season packs of canned vegetables are beginning to appear in retail stores in considerable volume, but a few items are still somewhat short of demand at current prices.

FOOD GRAINS

Outlook for 1947

Over-all supplies of food grain products may be of near record proportions next year. Despite continuance of large exports of food grains, the record crops of wheat, corn, and oats in this country, and some improvement in the world supplies of grains will ease the civilian supply situation in the United States. Domestic demand for cereal products is expected to continue strong and to exceed the rates of consumption in 1946.

Not only will there be some increase in the average supplies of wheat flour for 1947, but better distribution of the year's supplies can be expected. The extraction rate from wheat to flour was restored to the normal of about 72 percent on September 1 from the emergency requirement for 80 percent extraction in effect during the preceding six months. However, the 85 percent restriction on the quantity of flour to be milled for domestic consumption has not yet been removed. Its removal depends upon the outlook for the winter wheat crop and the amount of exports this fall.

The acreage seeded to wheat for the 1947 crop is forecast to be about the same as in 1946. With average yields, production may reach 930 million bushels, compared with the record 1946 crop of 1167 million bushels. The procurement of wheat and wheat products for direct military use probably will be relatively small next year. Exports of wheat in 1946-47 are programmed at about 275 million bushels, compared with 391 million bushels exported in 1945-46. Stocks of wheat are likely to be higher at the end of 1946-47 crop year than at the beginning.

Supplies of rye probably will be limited until the 1947 harvest. The 1946 crop is estimated at 21.4 million bushels. As the carryover of rye into the current marketing year was at a minimum, stocks are not available to supplement current production as they were in 1945-46. The 1947 acreage goal for rye is about one-third above the acreage harvested in 1946, but one-third below the 1937-41 average. With average yields, the goal acreage would produce 29.5 million bushels. The harvested acreage of rye has been declining for a number of years because of opportunities for better returns in other crops.

Continued large Oriental requirements of rice will keep United States consumption below prewar levels. However, civilian supplies from the near-record 1946 crop are estimated to be about 4.7 pounds per capita, slightly above the low of 4.4 pounds consumed in 1945-46.

The 1946 corn crop is setting a new record and its quality is much better than in 1945, when moisture content was high. Processors will have much less difficulty in securing corn for processing in 1947 than a year earlier. Output of corn products in 1947 should be considerably above that of 1946. Production of starch, sugar and sirup is expected to be at record or near-record levels. Supplies of such products as corn meal, hominy, grits and prepared breakfast foods also will be considerably larger than in 1946. Another huge oats crop assures abundant supplies for processing into oatmeal. Because of the short barley crop this year and smaller carry-over, supplies of barley food products may be moderately less than in 1946.

Review of 1946

Supplies of some cereal products for civilian consumption in the United States have been restricted in 1946 in order to maximize overseas shipments to meet relief needs. Domestic distribution of wheat products was limited to 75 percent of the previous year for the period from March through June and to about 85 percent thereafter. As a result, civilian consumption of wheat in 1946 is estimated at 207 pounds per capita, compared with 220 pounds in 1935-39. The decrease in consumption of wheat cereal products, however, is not as great as these figures would indicate, owing to the higher extraction rate that was required from March 1 to September 1. The higher extraction rate meant that more flour was produced from a given quantity of wheat. Civilian consumption of flour in 1946 is tentatively estimated at 154 pounds per capita, compared with 164 pounds in 1945 and 153 pounds in 1935-39. The restriction on distribution of flour and other wheat products is still in effect at about 85 percent of the 1945 rate. This restriction may be removed before the end of the year, depending on the prospects for the winter wheat crop and on the flow of exports.

During the first six months of 1946, about 588 million bushels of wheat disappeared. Disappearance included 189 million bushels for exports and shipments, 228 million for domestic food including military, 22 million for seed, 2 million for industrial uses, and 147 million for feed. Exports and shipments in the second half of the year may be smaller than in either the first half of 1946 or the last half of 1945, when about 200 million bushels were exported. Use of wheat for domestic food will be somewhat larger during the last six months of 1946. The use of wheat for seed in the last half of this year may approximate the 60 million bushels estimated for the comparable period of 1945. The use of millable wheat for alcohol is still prohibited. This year's record corn and oats crops will probably cut down the use of wheat for feed below the 166 million bushels used from July to December 1945. On the basis of these estimates, the carry-over of wheat into 1946 is not likely to be as large as the 690 million bushels carried over on January 1, 1946.

Domestic consumption of rye for food was somewhat restricted this year by short supplies. Rye flour consumption in 1946 is estimated at 2.3 pounds per capita compared with 2.6 pounds the year before. Stocks of rye may be reduced almost 5 million bushels during the calendar year. With the rye crop the smallest in 12 years, the relatively tight situation is expected to continue.

Rice consumption by United States civilians out of the 1945 production, principally in the year 1946, totaled only 19.8 million bushels (4.4 pounds of milled rice per capita) compared with 25.5 million bushels in 1935-39 (5.6 pounds milled)per capita. This reduction in consumption occurred despite the largest crop on record as a result of heavy relief exports. Other items in the distribution of table rice, in million bushels equivalent are estimated as follows: exports 23.8, shipments to U. S. possessions 9.2, military relief and services 8.2, brewers' use 5.3, and seed and feed 4.5.

Despite the large corn crop in 1945, the commercial demands for corn for food, feed and industrial uses far exceeded the commercial supplies during most of the 1945-46 season. Supplies of most corn food products have been smaller than in previous years, Oatmeal has continued plentiful all year, and consumption may reach a new high. About average quantities of barley food products have been available this year.

SUGAR

Outlook for 1947

Significant increases in civilian sugar supplies are not likely to be available until the bulk of the 1946-47 crops move into distribution late next spring, or early summer. Even then, the quantities available for civilian consumption in this country will depend not only on domestic crops in the United States but on crops in the West Indies and Europe, in particular, and world production in general.

Domestic production of sugar beets in 1946 is estimated at 29 percent larger than in 1945. Most of the sugar from this year's beet crop will not be available for distribution until the beginning of 1947. Domestic sugar cane production in 1946 is currently indicated about 6 percent below the previous year. Total mainland sugar output is expected to be almost 2.2 million tons, raw basis, if the out turn of sugar per ton of beets and cane is about average. Last year's production was about 1.8 million tons.

World production of sugar during the 1946-47 crop year may be 10 percent larger than in 1945-46, but substantially below the prewar average of 34 million tons. There has been some recovery of sugar production in Europe and other war damaged areas, but the recovery in Java, the Philippines, and Formosa has been very slow.

If sugar were not rationed, demand in the United States at about present prices would reach perhaps 8 to 8-1/2 million tons in 1947, compared with the 5.6 million tons available in 1946. Higher prices will reduce the demand, of course, but at moderately higher prices for sugar, demand will still considerably exceed prospective supplies. Retail sugar prices were increased recently by approximately 2 cents per pound under the terms of the Emergency Price Control Act.

Review of 1946

Sugar rationing is continuing throughout 1946. Household consumers have been rationed at 5 pounds for each 4 months, plus general ration of 10 pounds for home canning. Most industrial users of sugar were rationed at about 50 percent of their base usage in the first quarter, 60 percent in the last 3 quarters. Per capita consumption of sugar in all forms, both for table use and in various processed foods, is estimated to average about 73 pounds, much the same as in 1945. The distribution of sugar supplies over the country has not been very satisfactory. Sugar stocks in some areas, particularly in the East, have been so low that local shortages have been quite common. Areas dependent on imported sugar have been short during the latter part of the year because of the distribution difficulties. A special subsidy program was set up to cover transportation costs for distribution of domestically produced supplies beyond the usual marketing area.

The out-turn of the Cuban and Puerto Rican crops was below early expectations and the flow of imports into the country has been somewhat irregular. The total quantity of sugar imported from foreign sources and U. S. territories in 1946 is estimated at 4.3 million tons, compared with 4.9 million in 1945 and 4.9 million, the average for 1935-39.

THE WARTIME CHANGES IN FOOD CONSUMPTION
Part II Civilian Consumption of Major Foods
Section B. Dairy Products [1]

Civilian consumption of most dairy products except butter established new high records during World War II. Milk production for human consumption increased 14 percent from 1939 to 1945. Fluid milk and cream consumption recovered from a slump during the mid thirties, and under favorable income-price relationships it increased each year during the war. (Table 5) With strong demands for whole milk for both domestic consumption and for export products, butter production fell off each year during the war and by 1945 civilian per capita consumption reached the lowest point in over 75 years. Ice cream production was restricted from 1943 to 1945. Civilian supplies of other dairy products shifted from year to year and even from month to month, depending on changes in Government procurement for the armed forces and for export as well as on pricing schedules.

Smaller butter consumption per capita resulted in no net reduction from 1935-39 to 1945 in the consumption of butterfat, because fluid milk takings increased materially. Average consumption of milk solids actually increased during the war. Fluid milk contains both butterfat and other milk solids. This accounts for the emphasis placed on its consumption during the war by nutritionists and others. The average quantity of non-fat milk solids (proteins, lactose, minerals) in fluid milk and cream consumed per capita rose from 25.2 pounds in 1935-39 to 33.8 pounds in 1945. During the same period, the supply of non-fat milk solids from all other dairy products increased only 2.7 pounds. (See table 6. Also "Civilian Per Capita Consumption of Fat and Non-Fat Milk Solids, 1930-45" National Food Situation June, 1945 pp. 13-16).

Review of civilian consumption of milk in all forms

Milk production for human consumption set a new record of 115 billion pounds in 1941. The 5 percent increase that year over the previous record of 1940 was the sharpest annual increase ever to occur. Feed supplies and pastures were good; prices were favorable, as domestic demand was increasing, the Government was buying tremendous amounts of American cheese and evaporated milk for lend-lease, and stocks of manufactured products were being built up to meet futur needs. Total milk consumption per capita was reduced somewhat from the 820-25 pound rate of the previous 2 years by short butter and evaporated milk supplies for civilians although fluid milk and cream consumption began its upward surge.

The entry of the United States into the war accelerated the demand for dairy products along with other foods. They were particularly desirable for use of the armed forces. Our allies were short on milk supplies. The increased purchasing power in the hands of consumers resulted in much higher domestic demands than ever before. Processing plants were expanded, with the Government providing assistance in priorities and financing. Even with a 5 percent rise in

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[1] Part I was published in the November-December 1945 issue and Part II A in the February-March 1946 issue of the National Food Situation.

Table 5.-Civilian per capita consumption of dairy products, product weight, at the primary distribution level, 1935-39 average and 1941 to 1945

Item	1935-39 average	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945 3/
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Fluid milk and cream 1/	340	351	372	403	421	438
American cheese	3.1	4.4	4.6	3.1	3.2	4.0
Other whole milk cheese	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.9
Skim milk cheese	1.5	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.3	1.9
Evaporated milk (whole milk)	15.1	16.6	16.4	16.9	14.3	16.6
Condensed milk (whole milk)	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.7
Butter	16.7	15.9	15.6	11.7	11.9	10.9
Dried whole	.1	.2	.2	.4	.3	.2
Dried skim	1.9	2.4	2.3	2.0	1.6	2.2
Ice cream (actual weight)	9.5	13.2	15.8	12.2	13.2	13.8
Sherbet, etc.	.4	.9	1.0	2.9	4.5	5.1
Other 2/	56.9	60.5	62.5	61.9	61.5	62.7

1/ Whole milk equivalent.
2/ Includes buttermilk, skim milk, whey, condensed and evaporated skim and butter milk, malted milk, and dry buttermilk.
3/ Preliminary.

Table 6.-Civilian per capita consumption of fat and non-fat milk solids, 1935-39 average and 1941 to 1945 1/
(Solid content in pounds)

	1935-39 average	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945 2/
Total milk solids	70.8	73.8	77.2	76.8	78.8	82.1
A. Butterfat	31.7	32.0	33.3	30.8	31.3	31.7
1. Butter	15.2	12.6	12.3	9.8	9.4	8.6
2. Fluid milk and cream	14.2	14.4	15.6	16.5	17.6	18.4
3. Condensed and evaporated milk	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.4
4. All whole or part whole milk cheese	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.9
5. Other	1.3	1.7	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.4
B. Non-fat milk solids	39.1	41.3	43.9	46.6	47.5	50.4
1. Fluid milk and cream	25.[illegible]	26.0	27.6	30.9	32.5	33.3
2. Manufactured whole milk products	5.7	6.0	6.8	6.4	5.	6.7
3. Skim milk products and other	8.[illegible]	9.3	9.5	9.3	9.1	[illegible]

1/ Includes consumption of butter; fluid milk and cream; evaporated and condensed whole, skim and buttermilk (case and bulk); whole and skim milk cheese; dried whole and skim milk and buttermilk for human consumption; malted milk, dried whey, skim milk, and buttermilk consumed directly and used in other drinks, ice cream, and a few minor items. Most of the factors used for conversion from product to solid content were those given in U. S. D. A. Circular 549, June 1940 "Proximate Composition of American Food Materials," by C. Chatfield and G. Adams. A few adjustments were made on the basis of later industry information.
2/ Preliminary.

milk production from 1941 to 1942, larger production of most manufactured products except butter, and depletion of commercial stocks, the Government experienced serious difficulties in procurement for non-civilian use. Wholesale and retail price controls were instituted on fluid milk, cream, and ice cream under general pricing regulations in May, 1942. All other manufactured products were brought under price control in October, 1942. The first order requiring the set aside of dairy products for Government purchase was instituted on spray skim milk in November. The sale of cream containing more than 19 percent butterfat was prohibited by WPB M-259 (WFO-13) after November 25, 1942. The use of milk solids in frozen dairy foods, principally ice cream, was restricted by WPB M-271 beginning December 1, 1942 (later WFO-8).

Civilian supplies of dairy products per capita, on a whole milk equivalent, fat solids basis, were the smallest for 1943 in over 20 years and less than in later war years. Most of the drop from the 1942 average was in butter and cheese. Non-civilian needs were much greater, particularly for military use. Set aside orders were instituted for butter and cheese. Formal rationing of butter and cheese began in March 1943 in an attempt to equalize civilian supplies over the year and to improve distribution. A nation-wide feed payment program was instituted in late 1943 to halt the downward turn in milk production resulting from poorer pastures, shortages of feed concentrates, and less favorable price ratios. In 1942 and 1943 subsidy programs were set up for American cheese, butter and for fluid milk in some areas. In addition, price supports were announced for many manufactured dairy products. However, the holding down of prices by means of ceilings and subsidies tended to widen the gap between demand and supply.

Dairy production recovered most of the lost ground in 1944, being 14 percent above the 1935-39 average. The dairy production payments program for milk and butterfat and large Government purchases of manufactured products helped keep prices at ceiling levels. Higher unit returns for milk diverted a larger proportion of total feed grain supplies to milk cows. Government stocks of manufactured products such as butter and evaporated milk were greatly reduced to meet non-civilian requirements. Accordingly, civilian milk consumption per capita was about 789 pounds per capita, only slightly below the average for 1935-39. In 1935-39 the individual consumer's takings of butter, cheese, fluid milk and cream etc., were limited only by his ability to pay for them. In 1944, rationing of butter, cheese, condensed and evaporated milk was in effect and restrictions on sales or production of most other dairy products severely limited civilian supplies

During 1945, civilian supplies of dairy products on a whole milk equivalent basis about equalled the prewar average of 800 pounds per person, despite non-civilian takings of about one-sixth of the total supply. The high level of civilian supplies was made possible by the record production of 122.2 billion pounds of milk last year, 3 percent above that of 1944 and almost 20 percent above the prewar average. However, because of the high level of consumer purchasing power, the gap between demand and supply of dairy products was still great.

The dairy situation in the first 8 months of 1945 reflected the impact of Government programs. Record unit returns, including Government incentive payments, resulted in a record large production of milk for the year. Also, output of manufactured dairy products most desirable for wartime purposes (Cheddar cheese, evaporated and dried whole milk) was at or near record levels. Rationing and Government orders appeared to distribute the supplies more effectively than at any previous time during the war.

After the end of hostilities and the lifting of all wartime restrictions on production and consumption of dairy products, wide shifts occurred in the utilization of milk. Some of the milk which would have gone into butter production under wartime restrictions on marketings, was diverted into fluid milk and cream consumption and ice cream production, the best-paying uses. Production of Cheddar cheese, evaporated milk, and dried whole milk was also affected, but less than butter production. Fluid milk and cream consumption per capita reached a new record at a time when the milk supply was seasonally low. Unequal distribution of butter supplies became pronounced.

The shifts in the dairy situation which occurred in the latter part of 1945 continued in 1946. Consumption of fluid milk and cream has remained high but butter production and consumption have declined still more. The general wartime pattern of milk utilization is expected to continue more or less in 1947, depending largely on consumer purchasing power and relative prices. However, the great increase in ice cream production and consumption represents an important change from wartime. The upward trend in consumption of manufactured products other than butter is likely to be resumed during the next few years. New uses and new methods developed in the past few years will contribute to continuing a high level of consumption.

Fluid milk and cream

Consumption of fluid milk and cream together increased more than one-fourth during the war, despite some restrictions on sales. Milk drinking grew in popularity with both service men and industrial workers. Consumer incomes were high and with ceilings and subsidies, retail costs were held down so more people could afford fresh milk than ever before. A more general consciousness of the nutritive value of milk developed. Also, some of the increased consumption was to substitute for short supplies of manufactured dairy products and other foods.

The wartime increase in consumption began in 1941 when civilian per capita consumption returned to the level of 1924-33...around 350 pounds, whole milk equivalent. Substantial increases in demand for fluid milk and cream came in the latter part of 1942. Demand for fluid milk and cream continued to rise and became so great in 1943 that the production of most manufactured dairy products declined. Returns from milk in the fresh market are usually so much higher than returns from milk for processing that the fresh market has first call on available supplies. The prohibition of heavy cream sales was effective, but additional measures had to be taken to assure minimum supplies of manufactured dairy products. Sales of fluid milk, fluid cream, and milk by-products (cottage cheese, chocolate drinks, cultured buttermilk) were restricted under WFO-79 in 82 major market areas by November 1, 1943. Although fluid milk and cream were short in many areas in the latter part of the year, civilian consumption was about 403 pounds per capita for the year as a whole.

New records in consumption per capita were established again in 1944 and 1945, 421 and 438 pounds, respectively. With larger milk production and decreased Government procurement of manufactured products in 1944, sales quotas for fluid milk and cream were increased during the late spring and summer, the peak season for milk production. Fluid milk supplies continued good, even in the fall. Restrictions on fluid milk sales were suspended in the spring of 1945 and terminated on September 1, 1945. Butterfat restrictions were removed as of September 1, 1945, but were partly reinstated on July 1, 1946. Very large marketings of heavy cream and sharp declines in the production of butter and other manufactured whole milk products followed in the fall of 1945. Although the total quantity of milk and cream being marketed for fluid uses in 1946 is larger than ever before, the average per capita may be somewhat smaller than in 1945 because of increases in the civilian population. It is reasonably apparent that the post war consumption of fluid milk and cream will continue above the prewar level, unless serious declines occur in consumer purchasing power.

Butter

In the period from 1924-41 the average per capita consumption of butter showed a slight downward trend. Butter production was reduced materially by the diversion of milk to fluid milk and other manufactured dairy products even before Government controls were instituted. This was greatly accelerated during the war with price controls and steadily increasing consumer demands. Furthermore, substantial quantities of butter were procured for military use and in 1943 for lend-lease.

Civilian per capita consumption of butter averaged 15.9 pounds in 1941, a pound less than in 1940. Production was slightly larger, but the armed forces took about 80 million pounds and stocks were accumulated for future Government use. Butter production declined again in 1942. Stocks were drawn on quite heavily, but military procurement reached about 145 million pounds. Exports were still insignificant. Civilian consumption fell slightly to 15.7 pounds per capita. Retail prices of butter in large cities rose 13 percent from January 1 until price controls were instituted in October, 1942.

Major shortages of butter developed in 1943. Production declined sharply after July and totaled only 2,015 million pounds for the year compared with 2,268 in 1941. Over 100 million pounds were exported, mostly under lend-lease to Russia for clinical and top priority military use. War Food Administration stocks were built up to meet commitments, and the armed forces purchased about 260 million pounds. A set-aside order for Government purchases was instituted in February. Butter supplies for civilian consumption were acutely short in the early part of the year. A rationing program for butter and other foods was started on March 29, 1943. In June retail butter prices were rolled back about 10 percent under a subsidy program. Civilian consumption of butter dropped to 11.7 pounds per capita.

Civilian butter supplies were somewhat easier in the early part of 1944 when lend-lease and some military needs were being met by stocks accumulated in 1943. The government procured substantial quantities, principally for military use, during the late spring and the summer months of seasonally high production. Later in the year civilian supplies became very short and distribution problems arose. This situation continued in 1945 through the remainder of the war. Average civilian per capita consumption fell from 11.9 pounds in 1944 to 10.9 pounds for the year 1945. During the first half of the year the Government procured about 20 to 25 percent of the production which was even lower than in 1944.

After the end of the war, substantial quantities of butter were turned back into civilian channels. However, butter production declined sharply after the removal of restrictions on the marketing of fluid milk and cream and production of ice cream. Despite short supplies, butter rationing was terminated in November at the time of the end of the rationing of meats and other fats and oils.

Butter supplies have continued to drop in 1946 as production has fallen to the lowest level in about 40 years. Only slight recovery is expected in 1947. With further slight declines in total milk production, no major improvement is possible in the next year or so without decreases in the consumer demand for fresh milk and for other manufactured products.

Cheese

Civilian supplies of whole or part whole milk cheese fell 10 percent below the 1935-39 average of 5.5 pounds in 1943 and 1944 and averaged about 6 pounds in the other war years. Thus, it was not entirely a reduction in the total actual per capita supply of cheese but a tremendous increase in the demand for cheese that caused the shortages apparent throughout the war. Production of cheese, other than full skim, cottage, pot and baker's, increased over 40 percent from 1940 to 1945. Supplies of aged Cheddar cheese in particular, declined to very low levels. Imports dropped 75 percent.

The 21 percent increase in cheese production from 1940 to 1941 was sufficient to maintain civilian consumption at the 1940 rate of 6 pounds per capita despite the export of about 100 million pounds, military procurement of 11 million pounds and substantial stock accumulation to meet anticipated lend-lease needs. Production set a new record of 1112 million pounds in 1942; this was exceeded only in 1945 and then by 3 million pounds. However, production declined much more than seasonally during the second half of the year. Accelerated demand for fresh milk materially affected the output of all manufactured whole milk products. Civilian consumption per capita was higher than ever before (6.3 pounds); the armed forces took about 56 million pounds and the War Food Administration about 280 million, drawing on its stocks for about 20 million more for actual shipments. Production declined sharply in the latter part of 1942. On December 1, 1942, a subsidy program was instituted whereby prices were supported above the wholesale ceiling price. Civilian supplies became short during the winter and Cheddar cheese was included in the rationing program which began on March 29, 1943. As prices were set the same for all Cheddar, regardless of age, cheese stocks were reduced. The favorable prices and practically unlimited demand for cheese of all types led to the diversion of production into soft types not suitable for export and military use. Therefore, the soft types were added to the ration in June. A set-aside on Cheddar types was in effect during part of the year. Cheese production was 120 million pounds lower in 1943 than in 1942; military takings doubled; procurement for export was about the same as the year before. Civilian per capita consumption dropped to 5 pounds.

This general situation for cheese continued in 1944. Civilian supplies and production were much the same as in 1943. A limitation was placed on the production of non-cheddar types, effective February 1 (WFO-92). Although the War Food Administration procured only about 70 percent as much cheese, it shipped almost twice as much by drawing heavily on its stocks. In contrast, military purchases were up about 50 percent to around 190 million pounds.

Production of whole milk cheeses increased considerably in the spring of 1945, and for the year it reached 1115 million pounds. WFO-92 was relaxed for the second quarter of 1945. The termination of dairy supply controls at the end of the war was followed by considerable reductions in the output of Cheddar cheese. However, substantial military supplies were turned back for export. Net military purchases appear to have been only about 75 million pounds in 1945 and total exports and shipments 200 million pounds. Civilian consumption per capita averaged 5.9 pounds for the year. Even with a smaller production of cheese in 1946, the rate of civilian consumption probably will set a new record of 6.8 pounds per capita. Government procurement is smaller this year than in any of the preceding 5 years. The demand for cheese is expected to continue upward during the next few years in part because of the great variety now available.

Condensed and Evaporated milk

With the exception of 1944, civilian consumption of condensed and evaporated milk remained quite high during the war. Condensed milk consumption per capita varied between 1.9 in 1942 and 1.7 pounds in 1945, evaporated milk between 16.9 (1943) and 14.3 pounds (1944). Production of evaporated milk reached 3,776 millio pounds in 1945, about half again as great as the highest pre-war year - 1940. Condensed milk production recovered from the low level of the 1930's and in 1945 almost equalled the 1929 rate of 349 million pounds.

Condensed and evaporated milk were important lend-lease items from the very beginning of the program. Producers operated under a voluntary set-aside throughout the war. Exports and shipments in 1941 totaled slightly over 700 million pounds, of which almost 500 went to the United Kingdom. Heavy Government procurement both for export and for military use and stock accumulation for future sale to the Government reduced civilian consumption a pound per capita in 1941, from 19.2

to 18.2 pounds, despite a 894 million pound increase in production. All but 42 million pounds of the increase was in evaporated milk.

Civilian consumption continued at about the same level in 1942 and 1943. Production of evaporated and condensed milk rose 228 million pounds. But Government procurement doubled in 1942 compared with 1941, so commercial exports and shipments were reduced and stocks depleted. Actual shipments out of the country were much smaller than in 1941, largely because of the very tight shipping situation. In 1943, evaporated milk production dropped off 13 percent. Emphasis of the lend-lease procurement program was shifted to dried milk. However, lend-lease shipments reached their wartime peak and military procurement increased from 435 million pounds of evaporated milk to 671 in 1943. Civilian consumption of evaporated and condensed milk was extremely heavy in the latter part of 1942 and the early part of 1943. Stocks were greatly reduced. Accordingly, condensed and evaporated milk were added to the ration list on June 6, 1943. Civilian supplies were short in the last half of 1943 and on into 1944.

Production of evaporated milk recovered in 1944 and with condensed totaled 3,750 million pounds, slightly less than in 1942. Military procurement of evaporated milk reached 1155 million pounds, and the Department of Agriculture purchased over 500 million pounds of condensed and evaporated milk. These takings reduced civilian consumption to 16.1 pounds per capita, the lowest since 1936. Many distribution difficulties arose. There was apparently no feasible administrative means to assure equitable distribution because of the great differences in need among areas and between adults and babies. The situation did not ease significantly until after the end of the war, despite the high level of production. After VJ day, military procurement was practically discontinued. Very large quantities were transferred from military stocks for export. Production of evaporated milk dropped significantly in the latter part of the year. Further increases in the consumption of evaporated and condensed milk are expected during the next few years, with even greater use for infant feeding and more extensive industrial utilization.

Dried whole and dried skim milk

Production of dried milk was increased tremendously under special Government programs during the past 5 years to meet war needs. Dried whole milk production amounted to only 29 million pounds in 1940 but rose to 219 million in 1945. Dried skim milk production began the war at a much higher rate, 322 million in 1940, but it doubled to reach 644 million pounds in 1945. Civilian consumption of dried skim during the war fluctuated around the pre-war average of about 2 pounds per person. Dried whole milk consumption by civilians increased from .15 pounds per capita in 1940 to .38 in 1943, then dropped to .25 in 1945 because of heavy military procurement and export.

Domestic consumption of dried milk was encouraged at the beginning of the war. However, by late 1942, the Government was finding it difficult to meet the rapidly mounting military and export requirements. Dried milk was particularly suitable for export when shipping was at a premium. A set-aside on spray processed skim milk was begun November 14, 1942. It was extended to roller processed skim on June 1, 1943. The required use of milk solids in bread under FDO 1 was terminated when dried skim milk became short. The sales of dried whole milk products and compounds were limited under WFO-93 for part of the year 1944. By the fall of 1944 the production of dried milk had been stepped up enough that set-asides were lifted and the limitations on the use of dried skim milk in ice cream and bread were relaxed. During 1945 the only restriction on dried milk for civilians was set-aside on spray skim. Production of both dried skim and dried whole milk declined slightly more than seasonally after VJ day following the cut backs in military procurement. During the latter part of the year substantial quantities of both were transferred by the armed forces to the Department of Agriculture for export.

Domestic consumption of dried milk is likely to increase during the next few years as industrial uses and new products are developed. Increases in reconstitution of dried milk into the fluid form are quite possible. Continued greater utilization of non-fat solids for food is expected and dried milk is an important factor.

Ice Cream

Production and consumption of ice cream increased sharply in 1941 and 1942 as consumer incomes rose. In order to divert milk supplies into products needed for military and export use, Government controls on the use of milk solids in frozen foods were instituted in December 1942 (WPB M-271, later WFO-8). These greatly restricted the production of ice cream. The short supplies of butterfat encouraged greater production of sherbets. Immediately after controls were terminated on September 1, 1945, production surged upward. The demand for ice cream is particularly sensitive to consumer purchasing power changes although there has been a strong upward trend.

Other dairy products

Consumption of cottage cheese and beverages made from skimmed milk, such as chocolate drinks and cultured buttermilk, apparently increased steadily during the war. The quality of beverages made from skimmed milk has been improved so they may become even more popular in the next few years. Cottage cheese production increased around 75 percent from 1935-39 to 1945. This was in response partly to over-all increases in demands for cheese and partly to shifts in demands from other types of cheese in very short supply to cottage cheese.

Table 7.-Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary estimates for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 Prel.	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
Meats (dressed weight)								
Beef	Mil.lb.	6,936	8,523	9,135	10,157	8,700-9,000	128	87
Veal	" "	1,038	1,160	1,596	1,635	1,400	135	86
Lamb and mutton	" "	871	1,104	1,023	1,053	1,000	115	95
Pork (excluding lard)	" "	7,337	13,349	12,916	10,046	10,200-10,500	141	103
Total meats	" "	16,182	24,136	24,670	22,391	21,300-21,900	133	94
Poultry and Eggs								
Eggs	Mil.doz.	3,335	4,972	5,305	5,060	4,900	147	97
Chicken (dressed weight)	Mil.lb.	2,325	3,804	3,468	3,700	3,150	135	85
Turkey (dressed weight)	" "	350	466	552	677	600	171	89
Dairy Products								
Total milk 2/	" "	103,656	117,687	118,504	121,744	118,526	114	97
Cheese 3/	" "	669	993	1,016	1,115	1,050	157	94
Cond. and evap. milk	" "	2,225	3,343	3,750	4,123	3,350	151	81
Fluid milk and cream 4/	" "	44,146	53,925	55,946	58,428	60,328	137	103
Fats and Oils 5/								
Butter, farm & factory	" "	2,170	2,015	1,818	1,699	1,450	67	85
Lard 6/	" "	1,624	2,884	2,941	2,075	2,100	129	101
Margarine (fat content)	" "	303	500	479	499	432	143	87
Shortening	" "	1,529	1,438	1,364	1,449	1,365	89	94
Other edible fats and oils 7/	" "	575	1,272	1,149	954	743	129	78
Total fats and oils	" "	6,201	8,109	7,751	6,676	6,090	98	91
Fruits								
Fresh:								
Citrus	" "	6,870	8,838	10,069	9,974	9,596	140	96
Apples (commercial)	" "	4,384	3,107	4,181	2,426	4,186	95	173
Other (excl. melons)	" "	4,847	3,568	5,051	5,364	5,585	115	104
Processed:								
Canned fruit	" "	1,702	1,608	2,077	1,929	2,754	162	143
Canned fruit juices	" "	321	1,390	1,606	1,782	2,141	667	120
Frozen	" "	106	214	341	452	430	406	95
Dried	" "	1,111	1,339	1,139	1,014	1,010	91	100

-continued-

Table 7--. Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average 1943, 1944, 1945 and preliminary estimates for 1946 with percentage comparisons 1/ -- Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946 Prel.	1946 as a percentage of 1935-39	1946 as a percentage of 1945
Vegetables								
Fresh 8/	Mil. lb.	30,498	31,672	34,402	35,938	39,672	130	110
Canned 9/	" "	4,084	6,295	6,367	6,212	7,259	178	117
Frozen	" "	10/ 78	223	238	308	367	470	119
Potatoes	Mil. bu.	356	465	383	425	455	128	107
Sweetpotatoes	" "	68	73	71	67	66	97	99
Dry edible beans 11/	Mil. lb.	1,360	1,936	1,497	1,231	1,420	104	115
Dry field peas 11/	" "	230	1,000	803	507	611	266	121
Canned soups	" "	684	675	890	977	1,350	120	138
Canned baby foods	" "	48	234	306	422	450	938	107
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 sh. tons	1,948	1,531	1,512	1,667	1,950	100	117
Grains								
Wheat	Mil. bu.	759	841	1,072	1,123	1,167	154	104
Rye	" "	44.9	30.5	25.5	26.4	21.4	48	81
Rice	" "	46.8	64.6	64.8	68.2	70.2	150	103
Corn	" "	2,316	3,034	3,203	3,018	3,372	146	112
Oats	" "	1,045	1,138	1,155	1,548	1,520	145	98
Barley	" "	239	324	279	264	256	107	97
Peanuts	Mil. lb.	1,229	2,185	2,111	2,062	2,037	166	99

1/ Calendar year basis except for fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year; dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis. Potatoes and sweetpotatoes are now on the calendar year basis. 2/ The production of total milk for human consumption differs from total farm production of milk in that the former excludes milk fed to calves but includes off-farm production while the latter excludes off-farm production but includes milk fed to calves. Milk fed to calves and milk produced off farms are usually of approximately equal volume. 3/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese. 4/ Fluid milk equivalent for fresh use. 5/ Fat content basis except for butter which is on an actual weight basis. 6/ Excluding amount used in manufactured products. 7/ Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products and other minor uses such as fish canning. 8/ Estimates of all vegetables and melons other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production. 9/ Includes asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk), peas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, tomatoes, tomato pulp, and tomato juice, tomato sauce, paste, and catsup, and chili sauce, mixed vegetables. 10/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 11/ Cleaned basis.

Table 8.- Retail food prices and total consumer price index, United States, 1940-43 and 1944-46 by months
(Index numbers 1935-39 = 100)

Year and month	Meats	Eggs	Dairy products	Fats and oils	Cereals and bakery products	Fruit and vegetables			Sugar and Sweets	Beverages	All foods	Consumer price index
						Fresh	Canned	Dried				
1940	96	94	101	82	97	97	92	101	97	92	97	100
1941	108	112	112	94	98	104	98	107	106	102	106	105
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	126	122	124	117
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
1944	130	153	134	123	108	168	130	166	126	124	136	125
Jan.	131	154	134	124	108	175	130	163	127	124	136	124
Feb.	130	143	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
March	131	135	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
April	130	128	134	124	108	178	130	163	127	124	135	125
May	130	127	134	123	108	183	129	164	126	124	136	125
June	130	129	134	123	108	185	129	164	126	124	136	125
July	129	149	134	123	109	188	129	165	127	124	137	126
Aug.	129	159	134	123	108	187	129	165	126	124	138	126
Sept.	129	158	134	123	109	179	129	165	126	124	137	126
Oct.	129	179	134	123	109	170	130	166	126	124	136	126
Nov.	130	187	134	123	109	168	130	166	126	124	136	126
Dec.	130	188	134	123	109	164	130	166	126	124	137	127
1945	131	164	134	124	109	188	130	168	126	125	139	128
Jan.	130	170	134	123	109	178	130	167	126	124	137	127
Feb.	131	153	134	124	109	178	130	167	126	124	136	127
Mar.	131	141	134	124	109	179	130	167	126	124	136	127
Apr.	131	140	134	124	109	183	130	168	126	125	137	127
May	132	141	134	124	109	195	130	169	127	125	139	128
June	132	145	133	124	109	208	130	169	126	125	141	129
July	132	157	133	124	109	207	130	169	126	125	142	129
Aug.	132	171	133	124	109	196	130	169	127	125	141	129
Sept.	132	184	133	124	109	182	130	169	126	125	139	129
Oct.	131	186	133	124	109	182	130	169	126	125	139	129
Nov.	131	192	136	124	109	182	131	168	126	125	140	129
Dec.	131	193	136	125	109	188	130	169	127	125	141	130
1946												
Jan.	131	172	136	126	109	193	130	169	126	125	141	130
Feb.	131	144	137	125	110	193	131	170	127	125	140	130
Mar.	131	139	137	126	110	196	130	169	132	125	140	130
Apr.	133	138	137	126	113	200	129	170	135	125	142	131
May	134	140	139	126	115	200	128	172	136	125	143	132
June	134	147	148	126	122	197	128	172	136	125	146	133
July	174	161	179	138	126	202	131	176	138	126	166	141
Aug.	187	174	180	150	135	186	141	183	140	127	171	144

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

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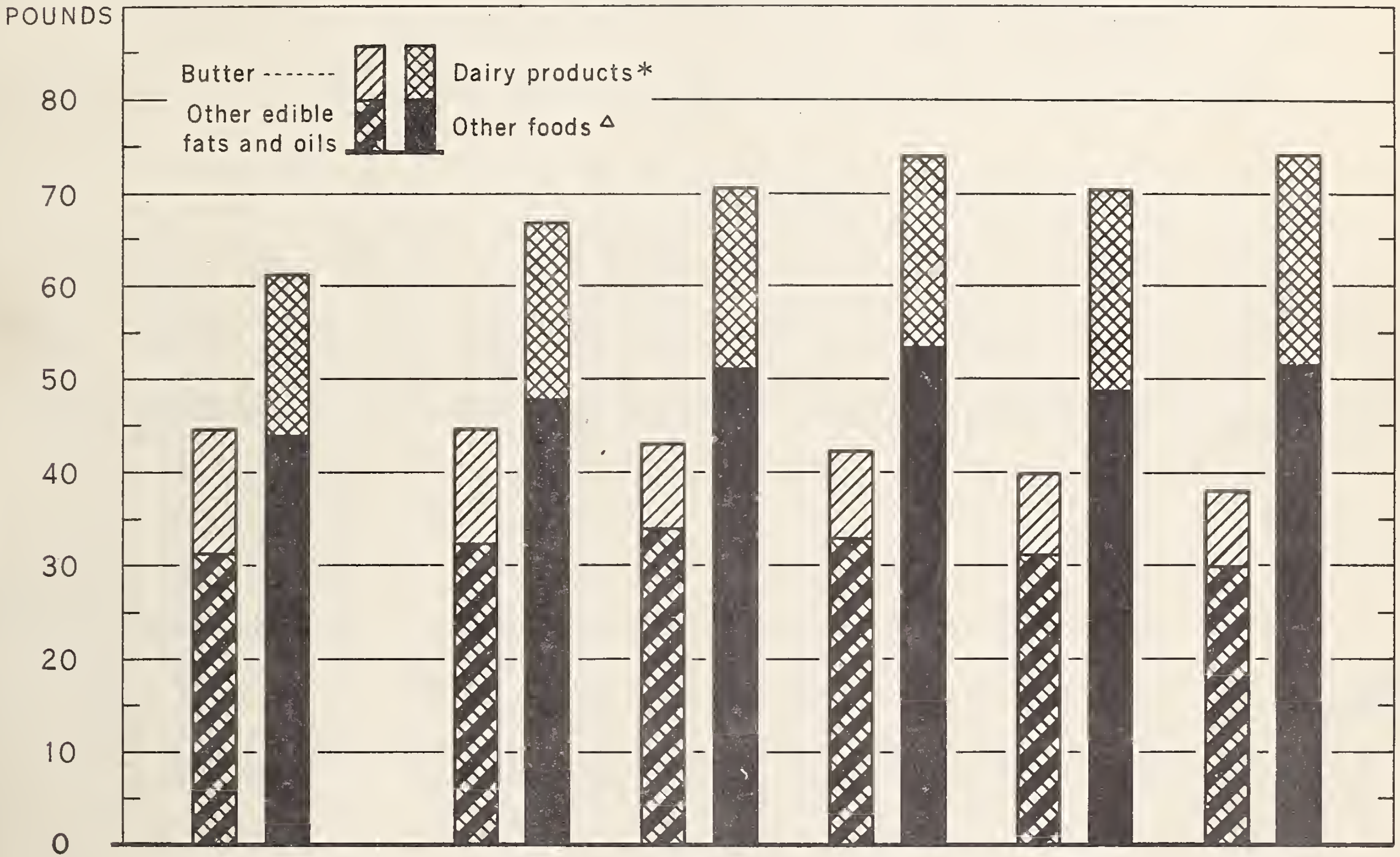
THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS - 37 BAE OCTOBER 1946

CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION OF FAT IN FAT-AND-OIL PRODUCTS AND IN ALL OTHER FOODS, PER CAPITA, 1935-39 AVERAGE, 1942-46



*EXCLUDES BUTTER △INCLUDES FAT CUTS OF PORK 1946 PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 46219 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The supply of fat available per civilian from products composed wholly or largely of fats and oils decreased from an average of 45 pounds per year in 1935-39 and 1942 to less than 40 pounds in 1946. However, the total civilian supply of fat per person from all foods actually has been slightly higher during the war and in 1946 than in the prewar period, about 113 pounds per year compared with the 106 pound average for 1935-39. This increase resulted principally from increases in the quantity of fat consumed in the form of meats and fluid milk and cream. The reduction in the consumption of fat in butter was almost offset by the increase in the consumption of fat in fluid milk and cream. (See Table 3.)

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, October 31, 1946

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SUMMARY

Food supplies will be relatively large during the next few months with the principal exceptions of sugar, fats and their products. Retail food prices will average materially higher than a year ago, as a result of the decontrol of most food prices, elimination of subsidies, and record consumer incomes.

Supplies of some foods, including chicken, eggs, butter and other fats, dried prunes and raisins, and sales of milk for fluid use, will be somewhat smaller during the next few months than they were in the latter part of 1945. However, larger quantities of some foods will be available. Included in this group are cheese, evaporated milk, canned and frozen fruit, apples, citrus fruits, cranberries, grapes, canned and frozen vegetables, potatoes, dried milk, corn food products and canned fish. Supplies of other foods will be much the same as in the latter part of 1945.

Although food prices will average materially higher, the retail prices for fresh citrus, apples, fresh vegetables and potatoes may be somewhat below the levels for the latter part of 1945. On the other hand, prices will be higher for chicken, eggs, dairy products, fats and oils, canned fruits, grapes sugar, cereal products, dry beans, beverages, meats and fish. The only food items still under price controls are sugar, sirups and molasses, and rice. The only food remaining under the wartime subsidy program is sugar.

Relaxation of most wartime controls over the production and distribution of food occurred during the past year. Set-aside programs are still in effect for only rice, canned fish, and walnuts.

The domestic distribution of flour, sugar, peanuts, and heavy cream is still subject to control. The use of raisins and Zante currants in beverages and nonfood products, edible molasses in manufactured products, and grain in malt beverages and distilled products is restricted under War Food Orders.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Beef supplies will be large this winter and pork will be more plentiful than in recent months although less so than beef. Total meat supplies this winter will be about as large as last winter. Beef, veal, and pork production is expected to run ahead of last year during the rest of 1946. Output of lamb and mutton is likely to be less than last winter both because of the smaller number of lambs available from the reduced lamb crop this year and the reduced sheep slaughter. Civilian supplies of meats may average a little less this winter than last, because stocks are very low and requirements for the armed forces must be met out of current production.

The ending of price controls on meats and meat animals on October 15 was accompanied by a sharp rise in prices at all levels of distribution. Part of the rise in meat prices resulted from the end of subsidy payments to slaughterers of hogs, cattle, and calves. The flow of meats into distribution channels from heavy current slaughter will reduce prices from their current peaks but they will continue above previous ceilings at least into early 1947. The civilian demand for meat is exceptionally strong. Price ceilings were also lifted from lard, tallow, other animal oils, and meat by-products. Government orders requiring compulsory grading of beef, veal, lamb and mutton were revoked and the slaughter control program of the Office of Price Administration was dis-

Beef production is likely to continue large throughout the winter and spring since present prices of fed cattle and large supplies of corn are expected to increase short term cattle feeding. Supplies of well finished beef will become more plentiful in early 1947 when marketings of fed cattle increase. Pork production also will be large through March as the result of the 1946 spring pigs come to market. However, a more-than-seasonal reduction in pork production is in prospect for the spring and summer months, because of the sharp drop in the size of the 1946 fall pig crop. Current high prices for hogs and declining prices for corn probably will result in the 1947 spring pig crop being the largest since 1943. This will mean a material increase in pork supplies in the fall and winter of 1947-48. At that time beef supplies also will be seasonally large.

Poultry and Eggs

Civilians will have about as much turkey for the coming holiday season as the record quantities of last year. The 9 percent decline in production will be offset by the large stocks now on hand and a considerable reduction in Army procurement. The number of turkeys raised in 1946 is a second only to the 1945 record. October 1, 1946 cold-storage stocks were almost twice as large as on October 1, 1945. Turkey prices will probably decline from the high levels in effect during September and early October, when red meats were particularly short and are expected to be at about last year's levels. Prices of turkeys during the past few weeks have been lower than prices for many types of chickens, a very unusual situation.

Supplies of chickens for the holiday season and the early part of 1947 will be moderately smaller than in the comparable period of 1945-46. The tight feed situation during the spring and early summer contributed to an 18 percent reduction in the number of chickens raised in 1946 and the low level of broiler output during the summer months. By Christmas, however, broiler output is expected to be substantially higher. Chicken prices reached record levels after price controls were reinstated for meats, but they have declined since the termination of meat price controls. Chicken prices will be lower during the next few months, but they will still be higher than last year's prices.

Somewhat fewer eggs will be available during the next few months than last year, although supplies will be increasing seasonally. Egg production usually reaches its seasonal low in early November. Currently, production is running about 4 to 6 percent below last year. However, larger stocks are in cold storage this year. Prices will decline seasonally after November but will be above those of last year. Support price levels for eggs during the early part of 1947 are expected to be higher than actual prices received in 1946.

Dairy Products

Supplies of dairy products are seasonally low. Milk production reaches its lowest point of the year in late November or early December. Prices of dairy products have increased very sharply since July 1 when price controls and subsidies were removed because of unusually heavy consumer demand, about normal stocks of some dairy products and below normal stocks of others, particularly butter.

Retail prices of butter, cheese and fresh milk set new records in September but prices of evaporated milk were still below the peaks reached in 1919. The index of retail prices for all dairy products in September was 26 percent higher than in June 1946 and 37 percent higher than in January 1946. Although dairy product prices will decline in the first half of 1947 as supplies increase seasonally, wholesale and retail prices will still average higher than prices a year earlier when ceilings and subsidies were in effect.

Partly as a result of the sharp retail price increases that followed the lapse of price controls on July 1, consumption of fluid milk and cream per person has declined more than seasonally from what may have been a peak reached during the first half of 1946. The quantity of milk used for purposes other than manufacturing declined 14 percent from June to August this year, compared with 4 percent in 1945. Part of the apparent reduction in consumption of milk in fluid forms in the past few months has been in cream. This reduction has been largely due to: (1) War Food Order 149 which limits the fat content of cream for fluid distribution to 19 percent; (2) the material increase in retail prices; and (3) the improved distribution of butter which followed the lapse of price controls on July 1 resulted in declining purchases of cream for making butter in homes and for some industrial uses.

Despite the declines in fluid milk and cream consumption since July 1, the level is still considerably above the prewar average. For the year 1946 as a whole, consumption of fluid milk and cream per person in the United States will be around 430 pounds compared with 438 pounds in 1945 and the 1935-39 average of 340 pounds.

Decreased consumption of fluid milk and cream has resulted in more butterfat going into butter production. The annual rate of creamery butter production in August, with allowance for seasonal variation, was about 1,200 million pounds compared with the record low rate of less than one billion pounds reached in June. Output of other manufactured whole milk products has increased slightly over the annual rates of June, in contrast with the sharper-than-seasonal declines in August and September 1945.

Fats and Oils

Prospects are that civilian consumption of food fats in the next two or three months will be moderately smaller than a year ago. Supplies of butter probably will be smaller, despite the fact that creamery butter output is now slightly higher than last year at this time. Last November and December about 80 million pounds of butter were released by the armed forces to civilians. This year both military and civilian stocks are so small that current consumption probably cannot be increased by withdrawals from stocks as it was a year ago.

Lard supplies may be about the same this fall as in late 1945. The 1946 spring pig crop, now being marketed, was about as large as the 1945 spring crop. Exports of lard in October-December this year probably will not be as large as the 60 million pounds shipped out in the corresponding period last year. October 1 stocks were only about half as large this year as last.

Restrictions on the use of fats and oils under WFO-42 were revoked, effective October 19. With the sharp increase in civilian population during the last 12 months, the per capita supply of margarine, shortening and oils is expected to be smaller this fall than last.

Termination of price ceilings and subsidies on meat animals and edible fats and oils, in mid-October, was followed by sharp increases in prices of these items. Late October wholesale prices, compared with a year earlier, were as follows: butter up nearly 100 percent; lard, up over 200 percent; margarine, up about 85 percent; shortening, up about 100 percent. In relation to the controlled wartime level, prices are likely to remain high for several months. They will reflect strong consumer demand arising from the high level of consumer income, and a strong tendency of dealers to rebuild depleted stocks. The seasonally low rate of butter output also will tend to support high food-fat prices during the fall and winter.

Fruits

Large supplies of fresh and processed fruits will be available to consumers this fall and winter. This year's fruit crops have been good and record quantities have been processed.

The early and midseason orange crop, now moving to market, is nearly a fourth larger than last year's crop. The new grapefruit crop is even larger than the record-large crop last year. As a result, prices of fresh citrus are expected to fall below those of last year. Apple supplies will be much larger this fall and winter than last, especially in the Eastern States. Commerical production of apples for the entire United States is about equal to the 1935-44 average, although, three-fourths larger than the small crop of last year. Accordingly, apple prices are lower this season. Pear supplies from this year's record-large crop will be slightly larger during the early winter than a year ago. More apples and pears are going into cold-storage than last year, and this will mean larger supplies for consumers in late winter and spring. Cranberries and fresh grapes from the large 1946 crops will be plentiful this fall. However, smaller supplies of dried prunes and raisins are expected to be available this season than last.

Canned fruits from this year's record-large pack will provide at least 17 pounds per capita, the largest supply for civilians since 1941. Important canned fruits in larger supply this season than last include peaches, apricots, apples, applesauce, and pineapple. However, prices are somewhat higher than last year when price controls were in effect. Among the canned fruit juices, citrus juices are expected to continue in ample supply. There also may be a slight further increase in pineapple juice. The upward trend in supplies of frozen fruits is expected to continue.

Vegetables

Vegetable supplies will continue plentiful this fall and winter. In fact, over-all vegetable supplies for the fall are indicated to be so large that most fresh vegetables probably will sell at prices somewhat lower than last fall, although at seasonally higher prices than in the late summer. The retail prices of the six fresh vegetables [other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes] included in the Bureau of Labor Statistics survey in 56 large cities in September averaged 5 per cent below those in July and almost equal to those of the year before.

Total commercial production of 13 important truck crops for fresh market shipment this fall is expected to exceed last fall's record by about 3 percent, and will be more than one-third larger than the 10 year average. Supplies of each of the crops will be far above average except for green peas which will be much below average and green lima beans which will be about average. The bulk of the fall fresh vegetables as usual will be made up of such crops as cabbage, celery, carrots, and lettuce. However, supplies relative to last year will show the greatest percentage increases this fall for cucumbers, lima beans, snap beans, and green peppers.

Commercial acreages of winter season cauliflower, cabbage, and kale grown for fresh market shipments are expected to be slightly larger than a year earlier. Acreages for winter shallots and early spring onions are moderately smaller. The record large crop of dry onions produced this past summer will provide ample storage supplies all fall and winter.

Supplies of commercial canned and frozen vegetables are expected to reach new high levels this fall and winter. Despite increasing costs of raw material and processing expenses, prices may not be much higher than last year because of plentiful supplies of fresh vegetables at relatively moderate prices.

A dominant feature in the vegetable situation for the next several months will be the abundant supplies of potatoes available from the 1946 crop. Total production of potatoes this year is now estimated to be a record 471 million bushels. Principal storage supplies, however, will come from the crop in the 30 late States, estimated at more than 351 million bushels and exceeded only by the record-large crop in 1943 in these States. Prices of potatoes to retail consumers will reflect Government price support at 90 percent of parity.

Although the 1946 sweetpotato crop is slightly larger than last year's crop, supplies probably will continue to move at prices about as high as last year.

Food Grains

The supply of cereal products is expected to be somewhat larger during the next few months than it has been since last winter. The milling of wheat flour for domestic consumption is still restricted to 85 percent of the domestic distribution in 1945. However, the restriction will result in relatively little reduction in the per capita supplies of wheat flour for civilian consumption in the next few months compared with the last part of 1945. The limitations on the use of wheat in other manufactured foods have been removed. Domestic distribution in 1945 is interpreted to include the quantity of wheat flour milled for the armed forces and for relief feeding by the military in 1945. Prices of wheat products may increase slightly.

WFO-1 which imposed restrictions on the distribution of bakery products and required the enrichment of white bread and rolls has been removed. Estimates of wheat disappearance in 1946-47 are now placed at 510 million bushels for domestic food, 260 million bushels for feed and seed use in the United States, 267 million bushels for export and perhaps 130 million for building up stocks.

The smallest July 1 carry-over of rye on record and the smallest crop in 12 years have contributed to the tight supply situation for food and other domestic uses.

Slightly more rice will be available for civilian consumption from the 1946 crop than during the last marketing year, although less than before the war. Set-aside of rice for Government purchase for use in the Pacific areas is still in effect as are price ceilings.

Controls over the use of corn in food products were removed with the termination of WFO-175. Larger supplies of corn food products will be available for domestic consumption during the next few months than in recent months and perhaps a little more than were available in the last part of 1945. Some increase in retail prices is likely to follow the removal of price controls on corn food products. Controls remaining on corn are those pertaining to its use for brewing and distilling.

THE WARTIME CHANGES IN FOOD CONSUMPTION

Part II - Civilian Consumption of Major Foods

Section C - Fats and Oils

Before the war, total civilian consumption of fats and oils other than butter was increasing steadily. This was stopped when imports were cut back and exports and military use of fats and oils were increased by the war. Civilian per capita consumption of food fats and oils has dropped each year since 1941, when it reached almost 48 pounds, fat content. During the war an increased proportion of fats and oils supply for civilians was made up of lard and margarine. (See tables 1 and 2.) By 1945, civilian per capita consumption of food fats had dropped to 40 pounds, the lowest rate in over 20 years. Four pounds of the reduction from peak 1941 use to 1945 was in butter 1/ and about 2 pounds in lard.

Fats are consumed in both the so-called visible form as butter, lard, margarine, shortening, cooking and salad oils, and in invisible form in other foods, particularly meats and dairy products. Although the civilian per capita supply of visible fats declined almost 8 pounds from 1941 to 1945, the total consumption of fat per capita from all foods actually averaged about 7 pounds (7 percent) higher in 1942-45 than in 1935-39 although slightly below the high for 1941. (See table 3 and the cover chart). This resulted principally from increases in fat consumption in the form of meats and fluid milk and cream. In other words, the reduction in the consumption of fat in butter was practically offset by the increase in the consumption of fat in fluid milk and cream.

1/ A detailed review of the changes in the consumption of butter was given in Part II B.- Dairy Products, in the September 1945 issue of the National Food Situation.

Table 1. Civilian per capita consumption of fats and oils, 1935-39 average and 1941 to 1945

Year	Total fats and oils: Product weight	Total fats and oils: Fat content	Butter: Product weight 2/	Butter: Fat content 2/	Margarine: Product weight	Margarine: Fat content	Lard 1/	Shortening 1/	Other edible fats & oils 1/
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Average 1935-39	48.6	44.7	16.7	13.4	2.9	2.3	11.0	11.7	6.3
1941	51.3	47.7	15.9	12.8	2.7	2.2	14.1	10.4	8.2
1942	48.5	44.9	15.7	12.6	2.7	2.2	13.6	8.9	7.6
1943	46.4	43.3	11.7	9.4	3.9	3.1	14.6	9.8	6.4
1944	45.5	42.4	11.9	9.6	3.9	3.1	13.8	9.2	6.7
1945	42.9	40.1	10.9	8.8	4.0	3.3	12.0	10.0	6.0

1/ Product weight and fat content are the same.

2/ Including relatively small amount of butter used in ice cream manufacture.

Table 2.- Civilian per capita consumption of fats and oils products as percent of total for year, 1935-39 average and 1941 to 1945

Year	Total edible fats and oils, fat content	Percent of total for year: Butter	Percent of total for year: Lard	Percent of total for year: Margarine	Percent of total for year: Shortening and other edible fats and oils
	Pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Average 1935-39	44.7	30.0	24.6	5.1	40.3
1941	47.7	26.8	29.6	4.6	39.0
1942	44.9	28.1	30.3	4.9	36.7
1943	43.3	21.7	33.7	7.2	37.4
1944	42.4	22.6	32.6	7.3	37.5
1945	40.1	22.0	29.9	8.2	39.9

Table 3.- Civilian consumption of visible and invisible fats, 1935-39 average and 1941 to 1945 1/

Source by food group 2/	Average fat consumption per capita					
	1935-39 Average	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
	Section A. - Quantities					
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Total	105.9	115.0	111.7	113.9	116.4	110.5
Visible fats and oils - Total	44.7	47.7	44.9	43.3	42.4	40.1
Butter 3/	13.4	12.8	12.6	9.4	9.6	8.8
Lard	11.0	14.1	13.6	14.6	13.8	12.0
Margarine, shortening, and other edible fats and oils	20.3	20.8	18.7	19.3	19.0	19.3
All other foods - Total	61.2	67.3	66.8	70.6	74.0	70.4
Dairy products excluding butter	17.2	18.3	18.8	19.4	20.6	21.6
Eggs	3.7	3.9	3.9	4.3	4.3	4.8
Meats, poultry, game, fish 4/	32.7	37.4	35.8	38.9	41.3	35.9
Dry beans, peas, nuts, and soya flour	3.1	3.1	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.5
All fruits and vegetables	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5
Grain products	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4
Cocoa	.8	.9	.7	.6	.6	.7
	Section B. - Percent of total					
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Visible fats and oils - Total	42.2	41.5	40.2	38.0	36.4	36.3
Butter 3/	12.7	11.1	11.3	8.3	8.2	8.0
Lard	10.4	12.3	12.2	12.8	11.9	10.9
Margarine, shortening, and other edible fats and oils	19.1	18.1	16.7	16.9	16.3	17.4
All other foods - Total	57.8	58.5	59.8	62.0	63.6	63.7
Dairy products excluding butter	16.2	15.9	16.8	17.0	17.7	19.5
Eggs	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.7	4.3
Meats, poultry, game, fish 4/	30.9	32.5	32.1	34.2	35.5	32.5
Dry beans, peas, nuts, and soya flour	2.9	2.7	3.3	3.1	2.9	3.2
All fruits and vegetables	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.4
Grain products	2.3	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2
Cocoa	.8	.8	.6	.5	.5	.6

1/ Computed from unrounded data.

2/ Sugars and sirups contain no fat.

3/ Including fat content of relatively small amount of butter used in ice cream manufacture.

4/ Including fat cuts of pork.

Review of food fats and oils during the war

In the prewar years, the U. S. was a net importer of about 1.5 billion pounds of fats and oils (including edible and inedible), but it had become a net exporter by mid 1942. The wartime imports of fats and oils for food were only about one-third as large as in the prewar period. Available supplies of fats and oils varied widely during the war. Domestic production of edible fat-and-oil porducts amounted to 7.2 billion pounds in 1941, 8.1 billion in 1943 when lard output and hog slaughter were very high, 7.7 billion in 1944 and only 6.7 billion pounds in 1945. An important factor was the decline in butter production from 2.3 billion pounds in 1941 to 1.7 billion in 1945.

Substantial quantities of fats and oils were taken for the use of our armed forces and for export to our allies. About half of the military procurement of fats was butter. The purchase of food fats and oils for military use increased from about 145 million pounds in 1941 to about 650 million in 1944, and net purchases of fats totaled almost 700 million pounds in 1945. Procurement of food fats and oils for export and shipment abroad amounted to about 500 million pounds in 1941, rose to a little over 900 million in 1942, reached a peak of 1700 million in 1943, declined slightly in 1944 to 1575 million pounds and then dropped to 525 million pounds in 1945. In 1943, almost 230 million pounds of butter and 900 million pounds of lard were purchased for export. The Department of Agriculture accumulated stocks of lard in 1943 and 1944 and shipped them out early in 1945. Butter stocks were also accumulated in 1943 but they were exported or transferred to the armed forces in 1944.

1941 The per capita consumption of food fats and oils averaged almost 48 pounds, fat content in 1941. Large supplies of vegetable oils were available in the first 8 months of the year from the harvest of 1940. Lard output was slightly smaller in 1941 than in the previous year. When lend lease and consumer demand increased significantly during the latter part of the year, the fats and oils situation became quite tight. Imports from the Pacific area were cut off by the out break of war. On December 13, maximum wholesale prices were set on all fats and oils except butter.

1942 The consumption of fats and oils by civilians in 1942 averaged about 45 pounds or 3 pounds less per person than in 1941. The reduction was in lard, shortening, and other edible fats. The tight fats and oils situation led to the introduction of various Government controls. General Preference Order M-71 (later WFO-42) was issued by the War Production Board, effective October 1. It established general controls over the quantities of fats and oils used for specified end products in specified periods. It included a system of quotas on the use of fats and oils in the making of margarine, shortening, cooking and salad oils for civilian consumption (excluding military and lend lease), based on the average use in corresponding quarters of 1940 and 1941. Several allocation and direct limitation programs for specific fats and oils were announced as the supplies became critical. Among the first to be controlled were coconut, babassu, palm kernel and palm oils. These were essential for certain war industries and have a high glycerine content so the bulk of the supplies were reserved for industrial non-food uses. The deficit for former food uses of these oils was made up by greater domestic production of soybean oil, corn oil and edible tallow. The production of domestic oil crops was encouraged by price quarantees, and record acreages of flax seed, peanuts, soybeans were obtained.

On May 18, 1942 retail price ceilings were announced for fats and oils except butter and linseed oil. Maximum prices on butter were set on October 5, 1942. The household fat salvage program was begun in August 1942 in order to obtain supplementary supplies of fats for use in inedible products. The heavy disappearance of lard into manufactured products, particularly soap, in the fall of 1942 led to the restrictions on its use after December.

1943 In 1943 civilian per capita consumption of food fats declined another pound and a half. The three-pound reduction in the average consumption of butter fat was partly offset by increases in lard and margarine. On January 1, 1943 the use of edible fats and oils in the manufacture of non-food products was prohibited. Rationing of food fats was instituted on March 29 when several other rationing programs were announced. Although the situation eased in the summer, it became somewhat tight again in the fall. Set-asides of butter, federally inspected lard, and rendered pork fat for Government purchase were required during part of 1943. After June 30, 1943 the use of fats and oils in mixing bread dough was restricted by WFO-1 to three parts of fat by weight to one-hundred parts of flour. This restriction was suspended for lard for the period from May 15 to September 30. The use of lard and rendered pork fat in soap was permitted under certain conditions from July 1943 until November 1944.

1944 From the early part of 1944 until the winter of 1944-45, the plentiful supplies of lard eased the whole fats and oils situation except for butter. Commercial supplies of fats were substantially larger than in the previous two years although still short of uncontrolled demand at ceiling prices. The consumption of all food fats and oils, as measured at the primary distributor level, was approximately 42 pounds per capita, about a pound less than in 1943, and several pounds below the 1935-39 level of 45 pounds. However, the consumption of fats and oils other than butter was actually a pound and a half larger in 1944 than during 1935-39. Although there was no rationing of fats other than butter and margarine during most of 1944, less of these fats and oils disappeared into civilian distribution channels than during 1943 when rationing was in effect for most of the year. There were no major retail shortages in 1944 until the last quarter.

Large quantities of lard went into storage in the early part of 1944 with much of it held by the Government. The War Food Administration contracted for 710 million pounds of lard in the first 6 months of 1944 and only about 100 million pounds in the last 6 months of the year. Because of shipping difficulties much of this lard was not exported until the July-September period.

Lard output was considerably reduced in the fall and winter of 1944-45 from the record of the previous year and the whole fats and oils situation became tight. On November 11 the purchase of lard and rendered pork fats for use in soap was again prohibited, under WFO-42 B.

1945 Civilian fats and oils supplies averaged 40.2 pounds, fat content, per capita in 1945, the lowest level in over 20 years and far below consumer demand at ceiling prices. Much of the reduction from 1944 was in lard and butter, principally because of reduced output although military and export requirements continued large. Ration point values for fats and oils became effective in January. Butter supplies were particularly short early in 1945. Production was down and Government procurement for export and military use was substantial. Although butter supplies improved somewhat in the peak milk-production season, lard supplies became increasingly tight. Lard production was about a billion pounds less in 1945 than in 1944, but less lard went into manufactured products. The tight lard and butter situations were reflected in the pressure on available supplies of margarine, shortening, and other edible fats and oils. Ration point values of fats were at the highest level of the war in the middle of the year. Military purchases of fats and oils were higher in early 1945 than ever before. They included about 70 million pounds of lard for civilian feeding abroad. Procurement of fats by the Department was the smallest since 1941. Export requirements were met by considerable reduction in Government stocks.

There was a temporary moderate improvement in the fats and oils situation in late 1945. Government procurement of butter was stopped, and substantial quantities were transferred from army stocks into civilian distribution channels. The use of fats in some manufactured food products was increased somewhat. Ration point values were reduced on October 28, and the rationing of food fats terminated on November 24, even though supplies of fats and oils were still considerably short of full consumer demand at ceiling prices.

1946 Supplies of food fats available for United States civilians in 1946 are now estimated at about 38 pounds, fat content, per person, slightly less than the 40-pound average consumption in 1945 and much below the 45 pound rate for 1935-39. The principal factors in this decline are smaller butter production, continued heavy exports of lard, and substantially smaller stocks of lard to start the year.

1947. The average rate of consumption of food fats in 1947 will still be materially below the prewar level. Butter will continue in shorter supply than other fats and oils in relation to prewar levels. Demand for food fats at former ceiling prices far exceeds available supplies. This was evident in the advances made in prices of food fats and oils since the end of price controls. However, as supplies improve and with possibly a lower demand, a decline in prices from the peaks likely to be reached in coming weeks probably will come in 1947, possibly by spring.

During the next few years, the supplies of food fats and oils may be expected to increase considerably. Imports into the United States will increase as the world fats and oils situation improves. Exports of the domestic supplies are likely to be less. Butter production and consumption will undoubtedly recover much of their lost ground, but a high level of butter consumption compared with prewar is questionable. If pork demand and consumption stay high, the domestic output and consumption of lard will be high. Some of the wartime increase in margarine consumption and production may be kept. The product has been improved and butter prices are likely to continue relatively high for another year or two. The prewar upward trend in the use of shortening and other edible oils, particularly the latter, may continue with increased use in bakery products, prepared foods, and in restaurants.

Lard

In 1935-39, per capita consumption of lard and rendered pork fat fell to the low level of 11 pounds as a result of the drop in hog production after the droughts in 1934 and 1936. Lard consumption rose to a near record of 14.7 pounds per capita in 1940, but substantial exports reduced domestic supplies again in 1941 and 1942. Consumption averaged 14.6 pounds in 1943 because of record lard output despite very large non-civilian procurement. Disappearance of lard into civilian distribution channels declined only slightly in 1944, but it was materially reduced in 1945 during the period of low output.

1942 Lard production increased moderately in 1942 over 1941. Procuremen of lard (for export, shipment abroad, and accumulation of stocks by the WFA) totaled about 700 million pounds, compared with average exports and shipments of 767 million pounds in 1925-29 and 192 million pounds in 1935-39. The lard situation became tight in the early fall of 1942, as consumer and export demand rose and ceilings on prices prevented price increases.

1943 Federally inspected slaughterers were required to set aside part of their lard output for Government purchase during the months from February through August, 1943 under WFO-20. The use of lard in civilian soap, paints, and printing inks was prohibited from January 1 to July 10 when the order was temporarily suspended. The 1942 pig crop was 23 percent greater than in the previous year and lard yield was high. Also, the 1943 spring pig crop, which was marketed in the late fall of 1943 and winter of 1944 was of record size. Accordingly, the output of lard in 1943, excluding the quantities used in manufactured products, reached 2.9 billion pounds. Seventy-four million pounds of lard went into soap, and distributers' stocks were built up. About 900 million pounds of lard were purchased for export and shipment abroad and 65 million for use by the armed forces.

1944 The heavy lard output from the 1943 pig crop continued in the early months of 1944. From January until March, lard stocks accumulated rapidly. Much of it was held by the Government.. Because of the abundance of lard from the record production, the ration value of lard was reduced to zero in March. Lard was exempted from the provisions of WFO-42, and soap manufacturers used 176 million pounds of lard in 1944 as well as 44 million pounds of edible tallow. Commercial exports were encouraged. About 1.1 billion pounds of lard were procured for export and shipment abroad in addition to 125 million pounds for military use. The lard situation changed in the fall as a result of the 29 percent reduction in the 1944 pig crop and smaller yield of lard.

> "The reduced lard yield resulted mainly from the strong demand for and smaller supply of pork than in the year before. Contrary to popular impression, lard yields are not closely related to the average weight of hogs, but are related to the number of hogs marketed. This is because of a fairly stable demand for fat cuts of pork. A large number of hogs marketed produces an excess of fat cuts, which usually finds its way into the lard rendering tank or kettle; whereas a small number of hogs marketed produces a deficit of fat cuts, and fat backs and other cuts normally tanked for lard are saved for sale as meat." 2/

2/ From page 5, December, 1944 issue of the Fats and Oils Situation.

1945 Lard supplies were short in the spring of 1945. Not only was production falling off, but there was a strong demand for lard for export and for military use. The set-aside was reinstated in January 1945 and ration point values were raised above zero. However, the WFA met much of the export need by heavy withdrawal from its stocks accumulated in 1943 and 1944. Total procurement of lard for export and shipment was only 290 million pounds, but almost twice as much was shipped. Military procurement amounted to 225 million pounds, including 70 million for civilian feeding. Total factory and warehouse stocks were reduced from 378 million pounds on January 1, 1945 to 93 million pounds on September 1, 1945. The situation eased temporarily at the end of the war because of the reduction in military procurement and the termination of lend lease. Rationing of lard was terminated in November. The easing of the lard situation was only temporary, however, because supplies for relief exports in 1946 have had to be procured out of current production. Stocks of lard had been reduced to minimum working levels by the beginning of 1946. The civilian per capita consumption of lard in 1946 is estimated at 11.3 pounds.

Margarine

Civilian per capita consumption of margarine increased from about 2.2 pounds, fat content, in 1941 and 1942 to 3.1 pounds in 1943 and 1944 and then to 3.3 pounds in 1945. The production of margarine was increased greatly during the war in response to procurement for British armies and the demand for table fats in this country. Very little margarine is procured by the armed forces partly because of severe restrictions on its use contained in the annual appropriation acts. An average of 300 million pounds per year of fats and oils went into margarine production in the period from 1935 to 1939 and again in 1941. The use of fats in margarine increased to almost 350 million pounds in 1942 and then to 500 million pounds in 1943. Reduced Government procurement of margarine resulted in lower production in 1944, but margarine production reached almost 500 million pounds again in 1945.

Exports of margarine before the war were almost negligible. However, the tight world situation for fats resulted in the procurement in 1942 of about 50 million pounds for export and shipment abroad and for Government stocks. Procurement was increased to about 90 million pounds in 1943 but was cut back to around 70 million pounds per year in 1944 and 1945. The armed forces procured only small quantities of margarine for sale in commissaries and for feeding prisoners of war, until 1945 when they purchased 12 million pounds.

The manufacturers' use of fats in the production of margarine was restricted under WPB order M-71 beginning in 1942. With the use of coconut, babassu, palm, and palm-kernel oils in edible products prohibited beginning July 1, 1942, the use of imported oils in margarine was reduced in 1942 to the lowest level since 1916. Cottonseed oil made up about half of the oils used in 1942 and much larger quantities of soybean oil were used than in previous years. Margarine production was down sharply after the beginning of rationing, but it was increased as butter became scarce. At the end of 1942, production was near the maximum permitted under the quotas for the use of oils.

During 1943 and 1944, there was a considerable problem in consumer preference for certain brands of margarine. Each manufacturer was permitted to use the same percentage of oils he had used in the comparable quarters of 1940 and 1941, 180 percent in January-June, 1943 and 167 percent after June 1 1943. Supplies of some brands were short of demand while others were plentiful. A few manufacturers were not using all of their quotas because of lack of demand. Nevertheless, a high level of margarine consumption was reached, particularly in the last part of 1944. More soybean oil was used in the manufacture of margarine in 1944 but less cottonseed oil. Special authorization was needed for the use of cottonseed oils and for some other oils in the manufacture of margarine.

The quota system for margarine was revised in the spring of 1945 by shifting the base period to 1944. The quotas for the use of fats and oils in margarine production were increased in June 1945 and per capita consumption increased still more. The tight butter and lard supplies resulted in greater pressure on the available supplies of margarine, shortening and other edible oils.

Shortening, cooking and salad oils

The per capita consumption of shortening, cooking and salad oils averaged 18 pounds in 1935-39, during the period of short supplies of lard. Average consumption fell to 16.4 pounds in 1940 when lard was abundant and low priced. It rose to 18.6 pounds in 1941 but dropped again to 16.5 pounds in 1942. This general level of average consumption was maintained during the balance of the war.

Use of fats and oils from domestic materials in the manufacture of shortening, cooking and salad oils was stepped up during the war to compensate for the loss in imports. Exports and shipments of shortening and edible oils averaged only 38 million pounds in the prewar years 1935-39, but they were increased to about 140 million pounds in 1942, 490 in 1943, 435 in 1944. These exports (as well as use in edible oils) in 1943 and 1944 included about 525 million pounds of linseed oil shipped to Russia for food use. Linseed oil is not regarded as an edible oil in the U. S. Exports and shipments of shortening, cooking and salad oils decreased to about 150 million pounds in 1945 (as a result of short supplies). The armed forces procured slightly over 40 million pounds of these fats in 1941, 170-175 million pounds in 1942 and 1943, and about 200 million pounds in 1944 and 1945.

The use of fats in the manufacture of shortening, cooking and salad oils was regulated by Order M-71. Large quantities of soybean oil and lard were used in the manufacture of shortening in 1942, largely because of the short supplies of cottonseed oil. Manufacturers were permitted to use 88 percent of the fats used in their base period for the manufacture of these products in 1943. Shortening, cooking and salad oils were rationed throughout the year, but distributors' and consumers' stocks appear to have increased. Ration point values were removed from shortening, cooking and salad oils in April of 1944 as a result of the plentiful supplies of lard. Quotas on the manufacture of these products were retained for 1944 at the 1943 rate.

The consumption of shortening and salad and cooking oils was slightly smaller in 1944 than in 1943, at measured at the production level, but distributors' and consumers' stocks probably were reduced during the year 1944. The large lard supplies prevented any pressure on the supplies of these fats until the fall of 1944 when federally inspected lard production was more than 25 percent below the corresponding months of 1943.

Quotas on the use of fats and oils in the manufacture of shortening, cooking and salad oils were reduced for the April-June quarter of 1945 from 88 to 80 percent of use in the comparable quarters of 1940 and 1941. They were further reduced to 79 percent for the July-September quarter. The tight lard and butter situations were reflected in increased demand on available supplies of other fats. After the easing of the fats and oils situation at the end of the war, the quotas were raised from 79 to 92 percent for the October-December period of 1945 and this rate was continued during the first quarter of 1946. However, on April 1, 1946 quotas were reduced to 88 percent of the base period use. They were removed in October. These fats are likely to continue relatively short until the latter part of 1947, but in later years their average consumption is likely to increase.

THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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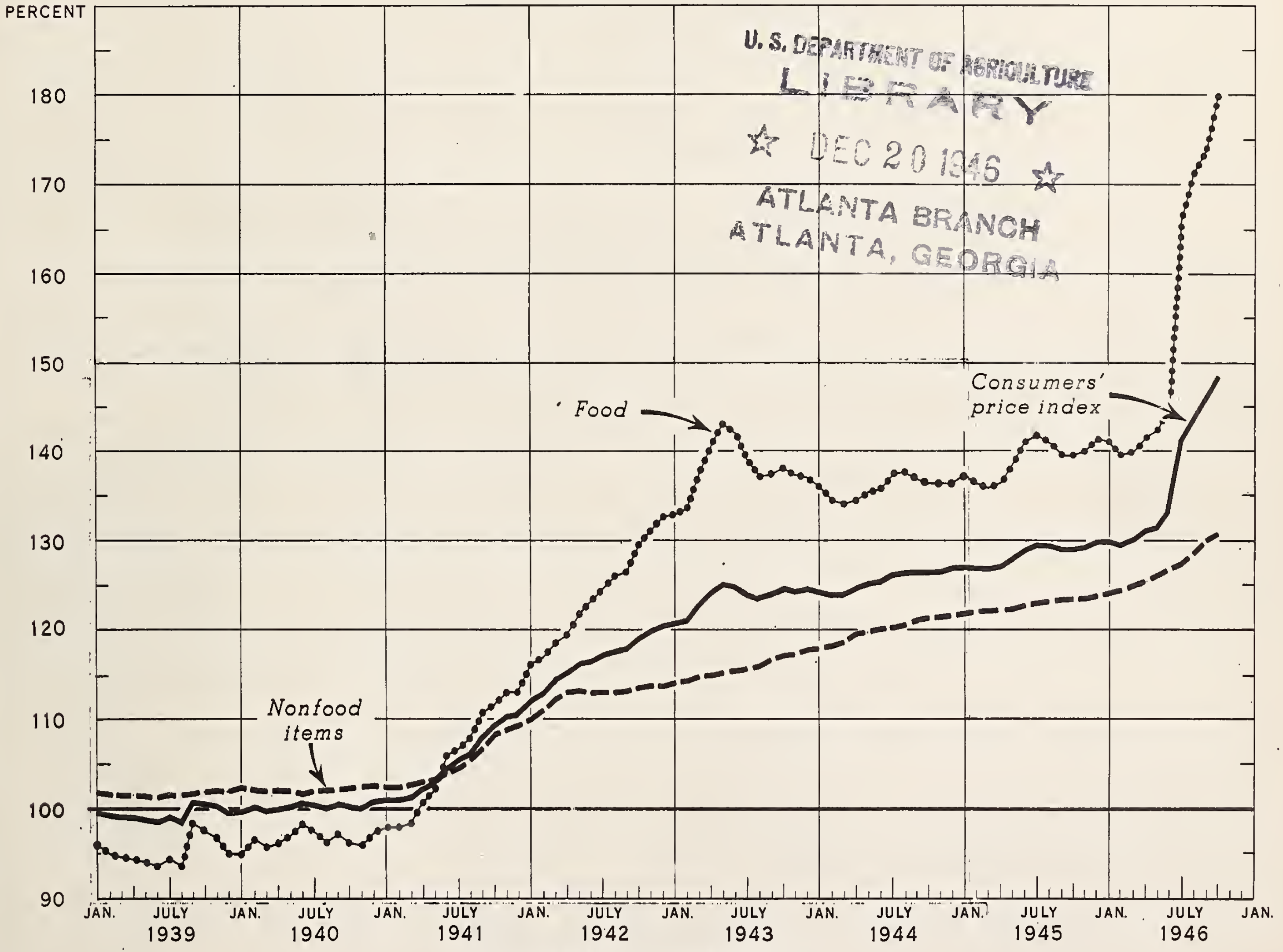
RETAIL PRICES: CONSUMERS' PRICE INDEX, FOOD, AND NONFOOD ITEMS, 1939-46

INDEX NUMBERS (1935-39=100)



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Retail prices of all foods combined rose sharply and steadily from the early part of 1941 until May 1943 when the index reached 143.0. From that point they declined to 134.1 in March 1944. Food prices fluctuated upward during the following two years. The lapse of price controls resulted in the most rapid rise in food prices in 33 years that records have been kept. The index of food prices in large cities reached 180.0 in October. Non-food prices have risen gradually since mid-1942, but there has been about as much increase in the past twelve months as in the preceding three years.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, December 9, 1946

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SUMMARY

Food supplies for domestic consumption, except for seasonal changes, will be about the same during the next few months as they have been during the late fall and winter. Prices, now at record highs, are not likely to rise much above the late November level.

Supplies of turkey, chicken, fresh deciduous fruits, sweetpotatoes, and dry beans will decrease seasonally from those available during the last few months of 1946. On the other hand, there will be seasonal increases in sales of fluid milk and cream and in supplies of eggs, citrus fruits, canned fish, cheese and lard. Larger supplies of corn products will be available from the 1946 crop. Supplies of most other foods are not expected to change appreciably.

Announcement

The National Food Situation will be published quarterly in 1947. See page 15

Compared with the early months of 1946, food supplies per person in the next few months are expected to average somewhat larger with prices of most foods substantially higher. The rise in retail food prices from June to October was greater than in any previous four-month period on record and no significant decline is in prospect for the next few months.

Most of the rise in food prices during the past year has been in items that had the least increase in prices during 1940 to 1945 according to data on retail prices of foods normally purchased by urban wage earners collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The removal of price controls on all foods except sugar, sirups, and rice permitted adjustments in prices of some foods which brought them more in line with pre-war relationships.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meat

Civilian meat supplies probably will continue at the current near-record level throughout the winter and will about equal those of a year earlier. Although production will decline seasonally in the spring, domestic meat supplies probably will be greater than in the spring of 1946 when purchases for exports were large. In the spring and summer of 1947 pork supplies will be smaller than in the same period of 1946 because of the sharp reduction in the 1946 fall pig crop compared with the 1945 fall crop. Somewhat less lamb will be available. Lamb slaughter in January-April 1947 will be smaller than in the same period of 1946 because moderately fewer lambs are being fed this winter. However, supplies of beef in this period probably will be larger than a year earlier, with continued high production and lower noncivilian purchases in prospect.

After decontrol October 15 retail meat prices advanced moderately above the previous record highs of August. Mid-October meat prices in selected large cities averaged 48 percent higher than the ceiling prices in June 1946. Retail prices of most cuts and grades except cured pork reached a peak in late October but by late November had declined moderately.

Retail meat prices throughout the winter are likely to decline but little from present high levels despite seasonally high production and large surplies. Pork and lamb prices may advance in the spring as production decreases. However, prices of beef, especially of the better grades, may fall in the spring as supplies of grain-fed beef increase. Lamb prices are likely to be high relative to beef prices in 1947 because of reduced slaughter of lambs and prospective larger supplies of beef.

Total meat production for 1947 probably will be at least as large as in 1946. Record grain feeding of cattle and the near-record number of cattle on farms indicate that beef production in 1947 will be at least as large as in 1946. Veal production in 1947 probably will continue large but fewer milk cows are on farms and the number of dairy calves for slaughter may be less than in 1946. However, a record or near-record number of beef cows are on farms and ranches. The number of beef-type calves available for slaughter or for further grazing or grain feeding will be large, particularly in the second half of the year. Pork production probably will be close to the level of the year 1946. A further decline in the 1947 lamb crop is in prospect. Lamb slaughter from the new crop in the last 8 months of 1947 is likely to show a further reduction compared with 1946

Poultry and Eggs

Egg supplies are increasing seasonally and civilian supplies will probably be about as large during the next few months as in the comparable period of 1946. Egg production in the first half of 1947 may be 5 to 8 percent below the first half of 1946, but much smaller quantities of dried eggs will be procured for foreign commitments. The retail price of strictly fresh eggs in large cities averaged 74 cents per dozen in mid-October compared with 65 cents in mid-October 1945. Retail prices in urban areas during the spring may be somewhat higher than the 48 to 50 cents per dozen prevailing last spring.

Turkey consumption during the holiday season is expected to be about as large as the record established in 1945. Supplies of turkey for the off-season of 1947 are indicated to be about the same as the year before. Cold-storage stocks in early December were substantially above last year's record for that date. Seasonality in the consumption of turkey has become much less marked because of increased off-season use of turkeys by institutions and restaurants.

Supplies of chicken in the first few months of 1947 may equal the quantities available in the early part of 1946. Prospective rapid expansion of commercial broiler output will offset the decrease in supplies of farm chickens. Cold-storage stocks of chicken are about as large as last year's record for this time of year, but more are being held by commercial firms. Chicken prices have been averaging about 20 percent below the peak reached just before the decontrol of meat prices in October. If the high level of consumer purchasing power continues in early 1947, chicken prices are expected to be higher than in early 1946, particularly if meat prices remain high.

Dairy Products

Milk supplies are beginning to increase seasonally. If the decline in the consumption of fluid milk and cream continues, more butter will be produced. Cheese production, particularly of Cheddar, has been running a little ahead of last year. Evaporated milk output is at about the same level as in late 1945.

Total milk production in the months ahead will be nearly as large as a year earlier. The number of cows on farms at the beginning of 1947 is expected to be somewhat smaller than on January 1, 1946. However, large feed supplies and more farm labor are available so the average production of milk per cow is likely to continue at record levels. In 1946, greater output of milk per cow partly offset reduction in cow numbers, and total milk output was the largest on record with the exception of that for the year 1945.

The consumption of fluid milk and cream has declined considerably in the past 5 months from the all-time high reached in 1945-46. The reduction was partly due to price increases for both milk and cream and partly to the ban on whipping cream. Because of the decreased sales of fluid milk and cream, the output of manufactured products, particularly butter, increased from last summer's low level. Production of butter in October was at an annual rate of 1.2 billion pounds compared with the rate of less than a billion pounds for last June. The situation during the next few months may be altered somewhat by the termination November 20, 1946 of WFO-149 which limited the fat content of cream for fluid distribution to 19 percent. Butter output is expected to be larger than in the comparable months of 1946. If consumer incomes should decline, the shift in the utilization of milk supplies would be accelerated; sales of fluid milk and cream would decrease still further; more butter would be produced; more evaporated milk would be produced and consumed; and ice cream consumption would be likely to decline.

Prices of dairy products have about reached their peak for 1946-47, and they are expected to decline now that the seasonal upswing in production has begun. During the next few months, however, they will average considerably higher than a year earlier when both subsidies and price ceilings were in effect. Retail prices of dairy products in 56 large cities in mid-October were 37 percent higher than in June, 48 percent higher than in January, and 52 percent higher than in October 1945. Prices of butter, cheese and fluid milk were the highest on record. The price of evaporated milk was slightly below the record high reached after World War I.

Fats and Oils

Supplies of food fats probably will be slightly larger this winter than in recent months. More lard is likely to be available for domestic consumption than a year ago, principally because exports will be substantially reduced from the more than 200 million pounds procured for export in the October 1945-March 1946 period. The 1946 spring pig crop was about the same as that of the preceding spring but hogs are being marketed earlier. This probably will result in smaller hog slaughter and lard output in February and March.

About the same amount of butter will be available for civilians per capita during the next few months as in the same period of 1946. Supplies released from Army stocks are not available this year as they were in early 1946 but creamery butter production is now running about 20 percent larger than a year ago and is likely to continue somewhat larger than a year earlier. There will be no marked change in butter supplies from the present level until the seasonal rise in output begins in the spring.

Little or no improvement can be expected in the total supply of margarine, shortening, and cooking and salad oils. However, there probably will be more margarine and somewhat less of the other products than a year earlier. Butter is more short in relation to the demand for table fats than lard is for cooking fats. With smaller cottonseed crop this year than last and reduced stocks of soybeans on hand at the beginning of the new crushing season, the 1946-47 output of edible vegetable oils (cottonseed, soybean, peanut and corn) may total somewhat less than a year earlier. These are the principal oils used in the manufacture of margarine and shortening. Domestic oils for food may be supplemented this crop year by the use of a substantial quantity of coconut oil produced from imported copra. On the other hand, the use of soybean oil in non-food products is increasing materially. During most of the war and until mid-October 1946 the use of soybean oil in non-food products and the use of coconut oil in food products were severely restricted by Government orders.

The short supplies and heavy demand for fats were reflected in the 50-75 percent increase in the prices of food fats and oils from the time ceilings were removed until late November. Butter has been free from ceilings since last June and was priced at 84 cents per pound wholesale at the New York in late November, compared with the June 30 ceiling of 56 cents. Retail prices were 5 to 10 cents higher than wholesale. The wholesale price of lard in early December was around 26 cents per pound at Chicago compared with 18.3 cents before decontrol in mid-October. Wholesale prices of cottonseed and soybean oils, at 25 to 27 cents per pound, were nearly twice the old ceilings which also were terminated in mid-October. The retail price of margarine in late November was about half the price of butter. This was the usual relationship in the pre-war period.

Fruit

Supplies of most fruits will be larger during the 1947 winter season than a year earlier. Fresh, frozen, and canned fruits will be considerably more plentiful, but relatively little improvement is expected for dried fruits.

Record quantities of fresh oranges and grapefruit, and above-average quantities of lemons at seasonally lower prices are in prospect for this winter. Early and midseason crops of oranges are about one-fifth over comparable production a year earlier. Market supplies come first from Florida and then from the California Navel crop. The grapefruit crop may be about 6 percent above the 1945-46 crop. The California lemon crop, however, may be slightly smaller than the preceding crop.

Storage stocks of apples and pears, out of which come the heavy winter season marketings, are much greater than a year ago. Cold storage stocks of apples on November 1, 1946 were about two-thirds larger than a year earlier and those of pears a fourth-larger. Some fresh grapes will be available out of storage during the early part of the winter.

Record-large supplies of frozen fruit were in commercial storage on November 1, about one-third more than a year earlier. The increase was in such fruits as apples, cherries, apricots, plums and prunes, most berries, and fruit juices. Stocks of peaches and blueberries were slightly smaller. The movement of frozen fruits into consumption, however, may be somewhat restricted by available supplies of sugar for processing frozen fruits into jams, jellies, etc.

Much more canned fruit and fruit juices will be available this winter than last. The 1946 pack of canned deciduous fruits is one and one-half times as large as the 1945 pack. Canned apples, applesauce, apricots, cranberries, peaches, and prunes, especially, will be more plentiful than last winter. Further increases are indicated for canned pears and fruit cocktail. Supplies of canned pineapple and pineapple juice, shipped in from Hawaii and other tropical countries, will be moderately larger than last winter. Supplies of canned citrus juice will continue plentiful. Production of grapefruit segments, curtailed during the war, will approach the prewar rate and more will appear on the market. Prices for some canned fruits and juices have declined this fall and prices to consumers are expected to continue lower than they were earlier in the season.

Supplies of dried fruits this winter are about the same as those in the winter of 1945-46. Reductions in raisins and dried prunes are offset by increases in other dried fruits, especially apricots. Prices are generally higher than last season.

Vegetables

Plentiful supplies of most winter fresh vegetables, potatoes and processed vegetables will be available for consumption during the next few months. Retail prices of fresh vegetables are expected to be seasonally higher than they have been during recent months but will be somewhat lower than in the winter of 1945-46.

Fall and winter crops of fresh vegetables are indicated to be above average in size. Unusually large quantities of cabbage will be marketed from the record fall crop and the good winter crop now indicated. Commercial acreage of cabbage for fresh marketing this winter is 6 percent larger than was harvested last winter and 12 percent larger than the 10-year average. The 1947 winter cauliflower crop is expected to set a new record and may be nearly double the average. The winter kale and spinach crops may be slightly above average. Last winter these two crops were moderately below average. Somewhat less lettuce for winter harvest is in prospect than last winter when the crop was a record large one. The winter commercial crop of beets is likely to be the smallest since 1939. Good supplies of carrots are in storage from the commercial fall crop. This crop was 9 percent below the 1945 fall record but about 60 percent greater than the average for the past 10 years. Abundant supplies of onions are in storage out of last summer's record large crop.

Retail supplies of potatoes should continue plentiful all winter at little if any advance in price from present moderate levels. The 1946 total potato crop set a new record and the crop in the 18 surplus States was of near record proportions. These latter States are the primary source of winter and early spring potatoes. About average quantities of sweetpotatoes are available. Although supplies are much the same as last year, prices are expected to be somewhat higher because of strong demand.

Large supplies of dry peas will be available from this year's crop which was 21 percent larger than in 1945 and 48 percent larger than average. Large quantities of dry peas will be used for civilian feeding in the occupied zones abroad. Dry beans, however, probably will be relatively scarce and prices will continue high. The bean crop this year was only 91 percent of average, although nearly 10 percent larger than last year's crop.

Food Grains

Domestic supplies of wheat food products for the next few months will be about as large in the first two or three months of 1946. Substantially more corn products are expected and slightly more rice.

The compulsory enrichment of white bread and flour under Federal order WFO 1 was terminated October 25. However, 19 States, Puerto Rico, and Hawaii have laws requiring the enrichment of these products. Wide-spread continuation of the enrichment program on a voluntary basis is expected because of its popular appeal and general recognition of its nutritional importance.

Substantial increases have been made in the prices of cereal products during the past few months. For example, November 26, the wholesale price of Hard Winter Family Short Patent flour at Kansas City was $6.05 per hundred pounds --8 percent above the price on November 1, and 10 percent above the price of October 1.

The procurement program for export of wheat in 1946-47 is well advanced. The original 1946-47 program provided for the export of 400 million bushels of food grains, including their equivalent in flour. Of this at least 267 million bushels will be wheat. As of November 30 a total of about 115 million bushels of wheat and wheat equivalent in flour had been lifted for export. At that time the Department of Agriculture had in its possession or under contract another 72 million bushels of wheat. Together with wheat which will be shipped as flour this will be sufficient to reach the original 267 million bushel goal. However, substantial quantities of flour are still to be procured for export. If less corn than originally planned should be exported, it would be necessary to make up the difference with wheat to complete the over-all grain export program. No difficulty is expected in procuring such additional wheat nor in procuring other grains necessary to round out the 400 million bushel goal. On November 29, it was announced that 550 million bushels of grain could be procured for export. However, the transportation situation is decidedly unfavorable even for meeting the goal of 400 million bushels. Material setbacks in the shipping schedule have occurred as a result of maritime and other labor difficulties. For the 18 weeks ending November 30, total carloadings in the United States of grain and grain products were about 14 percent below those of the corresponding period of 1945.

World wheat production is estimated to be about 13 percent above the very small crop last year, but still slightly below the 1935-39 average. Even with this improvement in production, the total grain import requirements are again greatly in excess of world exportable supplies.

During the 1946-47 crop year the quantity of wheat for food use in the United States may total about 510 million bushels. The distribution of flour for domestic consumption was somewhat limited under WFO 144 until November 29. Feed use is estimated at 180 million bushels and seed at 82 million. The use of wheat for spirits and beer is still prohibited. If transportation facilities are available to complete the export program, the carryover of wheat on July 1, 1947 may total no more than the 1932-41 average of 235 million bushels. The July 1, 1946 carryover was only 101 million bushels.

The situation with respect to rye and rice supplies remains tight. The carryover of rye on July 1 was the smallest on record and the crop the smallest in 12 years. Exports of rice continue large so that only slightly more rice will be available for civilian consumption from the 1946 crop than during the last marketing year. Set-aside of rice for Government purchase for use in the Pacific areas is still in effect as are price ceilings.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES

Retail food prices have risen faster in the past four months than in any comparable period during the 33 years in which records have been kept. The prices of all foods combined were 87 percent higher in October 1946, about 15 months after the end of World War II, than in October 1940, about the same number of months before the beginning of the war. Most of the increase in food prices during the past year has been in items with the least increase in prices from 1940 to 1945. The adjustments seem to indicate a shift toward prewar price relationships among the several foods. The pattern of change in food prices since August 1945 bears a remarkable similarity to the pattern of changes in prices after World War I. There is even some indication that a down-turn in food prices may be expected within 1-1/2 to 2 years after the end of World War II, although probably not as great a decline as occurred after World War I.

Data used throughout this analysis of retail food prices are those collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics as one part of its work on the Consumers' Price Index.

The index of retail food prices in October 1946 was about 80 percent above the average for 1935-39, but in June it was only 46 percent above the prewar average. Some of the increase in food prices since June 30th has been due to seasonal shifts in some commodities, but most of the increase has resulted from the decontrol of food prices. (See Table 1.)

Although the price of eggs was higher in October in relation to the prewar average than the price of any other commodity, much of the rise from June was due to seasonal changes in supplies. Fats and oils prices reported in mid-October

Table 1.- Retail food prices in selected large cities, by months, June to October, 1946 compared with 1935-39 average 1/

Food group	Retail prices in month as percent of 1935-39 average				
	June 1946	July 1946	August 1946	Sept. 1946	October 1946
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All foods	145.6	165.7	171.2	174.1	180.0
Meats, poultry, fish	134.0	173.7	186.6	188.5	190.7
Eggs	147.1	161.0	173.6	193.3	214.6
Dairy products 2/	147.8	179.1	180.1	186.6	202.4
Fats and oils 3/	126.4	137.9	180.3	151.4	147.9
Fruits					
Fresh	217.2	228.9	210.8	207.7	209.2
Canned	138.2	145.8	144.6	150.9	153.6
Dried 4/	173.4	176.1	178.1	181.8	196.8
Vegetables					
Fresh 5/	161.7	158.6	149.5	150.3	147.8
Canned	124.1	126.1	139.7	148.3	155.3
Dried beans	170.0	172.8	187.5	188.3	198.5
Potatoes and sweetpotatoes	214.4	221.1	196.5	178.5	171.0
Cereals and bakery products	122.1	126.1	135.4	137.3	138.5
Sugar and sweets	136.2	138.5	140.3	141.5	167.5
Beverages	125.4	126.0	126.6	162.0	166.5

1/ No allowance made for seasonal variation. All data from Bureau of Labor Statistics.

2/ Includes butter.

3/ Excludes butter.

4/ Prunes only

5/ Excluding potatoes and sweetpotatoes.

Table 2.- Comparison of October retail food prices selected large cities, 1941 to 1946 with those in October 1940 1/

Food group	Retail prices in month as percent of October, 1940 prices						Oct. '46 prices as percentage Oct. '45
	Oct. 1941	Oct. 1942	Oct. 1943	Oct. 1944	Oct. 1945	Oct. 1946	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All foods	116.0	134.7	143.7	141.8	144.8	187.1	129.2
Meats, poultry, fish	113.9	132.4	131.8	130.6	132.2	192.4	145.5
Eggs	124.0	148.8	171.7	161.7	167.6	193.9	115.7
Dairy products	118.1	129.3	131.5	131.6	131.3	199.4	151.9
Fats and oils	131.2	150.4	157.1	152.9	154.0	183.7	119.3
Fruit							
Fresh	123.3	151.9	208.1	201.6	229.2	224.9	98.1
Canned	117.5	143.1	152.1	153.2	153.1	163.8	107.0
Dried 2/	107.2	154.6	164.2	167.2	169.3	191.6	113.2
Vegetables							
Fresh 3/	116.9	159.7	178.1	163.9	174.2	166.3	95.5
Canned	111.8	134.4	138.8	138.0	139.0	171.0	123.0
Dried beans	124.7	143.9	158.6	161.1	168.9	211.6	125.3
Potatoes and sweetpotatoes	121.8	180.3	222.2	239.1	223.5	227.4	101.7
Cereals and bakery products	107.8	111.5	114.2	114.6	115.1	146.1	126.9
Sugar and sweets	118.8	134.0	133.9	133.5	133.6	176.9	132.4
Beverages	122.4	136.8	137.9	137.0	137.5	183.6	133.5

1/ Based on data from Bureau of Labor Statistics.
2/ Prunes only.
3/ Excluding potatoes and sweetpotatoes.

apparently did not yet reflect the price decontrol of lard on October 15, and of other fats and oils on October 17. Butter has been free from price controls since June 30. Potato and sweetpotato prices were down seasonally in October from their level in June. Sugar, sirups, and rice are the only food items still under price control, and there have been substantial increases in their ceilings in recent weeks.

The seasonal aspect of price changes is avoided in Table 2 by making all comparisons on an October basis. The combined index of all food prices was 87 percent higher in October 1946 than in October 1940, before the war began. The greatest increase to October 1946 was in potatoes and sweetpotatoes. The least was in cereals and bakery products, but their prices have increased 27 percent in the past year. The smallest increases in the prices of foods during the past year have been in those items which had had the most significant increases from 1940 to 1945.

The October 1946 prices of selected individual food items are compared with their prices in June 1946 and October 1945 in Table 3. The only one of these food items which showed a decrease from June to October was potatoes with seasonal increases in supplies. Although the average price of tea was substantially the same on the three dates covered in the table, the price has increased since October. The same is true of some of the other food items. The prices of the meat items and butter increased about 50 percent from June to October 1946, in part to offset the subsidy which was terminated with the expiration of the Emergency Price Control Act and in part a definite rise in price. Lard prices were not decontrolled until October 15, the date of the monthly survey by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Prices of fluid milk had increased one-fifth in this four month period and resulted in decreased sales of fluid milk and cream.

Table 3.-Comparison of retail prices in large cities of 14 selected foods in October 1946 with prices in June 1946 and October 1945 1/

Food item	Unit	October 1945	June 1946	October 1946	October 1946 as percent of October 1945	October 1946 as percent of June 1946
		Cents	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent
Round steak	Lb.	40.9	41.7	61.1	149.4	146.5
Chuck roast	Lb.	28.4	29.0	43.0	151.4	148.3
Pork chops	Lb.	37.2	37.5	61.0	164.0	162.7
Sliced ham	Lb.	49.4	50.8	77.2	156.3	152.0
Eggs	Doz.	65.7	51.0	74.4	113.2	145.9
Butter	Lb.	49.9	61.0	96.3	193.0	157.9
Lard	Lb.	18.8	18.8	25.8	137.2	137.2
Fluid milk 2/	Qt.	15.6	16.4	20.0	128.2	122.0
Canned corn	No. 2 can	14.8	14.8	16.2	109.5	109.5
Potatoes	15 lbs.	62.0	75.2	61.0	98.4	81.1
Flour	10 lbs.	64.1	63.8	80.6	125.7	126.3
Sugar - granulated	1 lb.	6.6	7.3	9.0	136.4	123.3
Coffee	1 lb.	30.6	30.7	41.6	135.9	135.5
Tea	1/4 lb.	24.3	24.1	24.3	100.0	100.8

1/ Bureau of Labor Statistics data.
2/ Delivered

Although the price of sugar is still under control, there have been significant increases in recent months under the new pruchase agreement for Cuban sugar. Coffee prices rose 35 percent from June to October, and further increases during the past month have been reported. Butter prices were higher in June than in October 1945, despite the fact that they were still under control at that time. Two increases in ceilings had been granted, in part to offset decreased subsidies and in part to provide greater returns to farmers to encourage butter production.

The pattern of food prices after World War II is strikingly similar to the pattern of prices after World War I, as shown in Table 4. The over-all index of food prices rose slightly within the first year after World War I, but substantial increases began by the end of the first 12 months. The peak in food prices was reached 18 months after the end of World War I. There was relatively little increase in over-all food prices in the first 11 months after V-J day. However, there were rapid increases in the over-all food price index following the decontrol of prices in July. Beef prices held at about the same level in the first year after World Wars I and II. Round steak was much higher priced in July-October 1946 than at the peak after World War I. It was priced at 63 cents per pound in August, compared with the previous record of 49 cents in July 1929. The average price of pork chops was 61 cents per pound in October 1946, compared with the previous high of 50 cents in September and October 1920. Sliced ham sold for about 50 percent more in October 1946 than in the comparable month after World War I. Strictly fresh Grade A eggs sold at 90 cents a dozen in December 1919, 83 cents in January 1920. They reached 92 cents in December 1920. Comparable eggs sold at 74 cents a dozen in October 1946.

Although butter prices were high after World War I, they reached a peak of only 78 cents in December 1919. This is significantly lower than the 96 cent retail price for October 1946. Lard sold for much less per pound in the first year after World War II than after World War I. Since its decontrol, it has passed the July 1919 rate of 42 cents. The peak price for fluid milk (delivered) in post World War I was 17.3 cents in October and November 1920. Milk declined 3 cents per quart within a year after that peak. The October 1946 average price of 20 cents per quart is the highest on record.

Canned corn prices have been significantly lower in the past year than after the first World War, and they have been even below the level of the 1920's. However, the price of canned corn has risen 1-1/2 cents since summer. The peak in potato prices of $1.54 for 15 pounds was reached in June 1920. Potato prices dropped almost 50 percent in the following two months. They have varied only seasonally since August 1945, and there is little prospect of more than seasonal changes in price within the 1946-47 crop year because of the record crop and Government price support commitments.

The retail price of wheat flour increased gradually after World War I to 88 cents for 10 pounds in June 1920. The same price prevailed in October 1946 as in January 1920 although there have been increases since October. The average level of sugar prices was higher during World War I than during World War II. In about June 1919 sugar prices began to rise from the level of 10 to 11 cents per pound. A peak of 26.7 cents was reached in June 1920, but by January 1921 the price had dropped to 10 cents per pound and to 7 cents by July 1921. Price controls are still in effect for sugar, but the supply is perhaps one-third short of demand at present prices. Sugar prices were raised 2.3 cents by the OPA in the period from January 1946 to October 1946.

Table 4.-Food price index and retail prices of selected foods in large cities after World War I and World War II 1/

After World War I	Unit	Oct. 1918	Jan. 1919	Apr. 1919	July 1919	Oct. 1919	Jan. 1920	Apr. 1920	July 1920	Oct. 1920
World War II		July 1945	Oct. 1945	Jan. 1946	Apr. 1946	July 1946	Oct. 1946			
Food price index 1935-39=100		144.8	148.5	145.9	153.2	152.3	165.5	177.6	182.7	160.8
		141.7	139.3	141.0	141.7	165.7	180.0			
		Cents								
Round steak	Lb.	39.0	39.0	40.5	40.7	36.9	37.0	39.9	45.0	41.9
		40.1	40.9	40.6	41.2	61.1	61.1			
Chuck roast, beef	"	27.9	28.0	29.4	27.7	24.5	25.3	26.6	28.5	25.9
		27.9	28.4	28.4	28.9	43.3	43.0			
Pork chops	"	45.4	40.6	41.4	46.2	44.3	37.3	43.2	43.7	49.9
		36.9	37.2	37.1	37.4	51.2	61.0			
Sliced ham	"	52.0	53.6	52.9	56.7	52.4	50.3	53.6	59.8	59.8
		49.2	49.4	50.5	50.5	64.8	77.2			
Eggs	Dozen	64.1	75.2	49.3	56.6	72.0	82.7	52.8	57.3	80.8
		55.3	65.7	59.9	47.8	55.8	74.4			
Butter	Lb.	65.1	70.5	71.3	62.8	71.1	74.2	76.1	67.9	68.9
		49.9	49.9	54.7	55.0	80.5	96.3			
Lard	Lb.	34.2	33.4	35.3	42.0	36.1	34.0	30.1	29.0	29.2
		18.7	18.8	18.7	18.7	23.4	25.8			
Fluid milk 2/	Qt.	14.8	15.6	15.0	15.0	16.0	16.6	16.3	16.7	17.3
		15.6	15.6	15.4	15.4	18.9	20.0			
Canned corn	No. 2 can	-	20.0	19.2	19.3	19.1	18.8	18.5	18.7	18.5
		14.8	14.8	14.7	14.8	14.9	16.2			
Potatoes	15 lbs.	52.5	48.0	46.5	72.0	57.0	81.0	136.5	133.5	51.0
		81.9	62.0	70.0	78.0	76.4	61.0			
Flour, wheat	10 lbs.	67	66	72	75	73	81	81	87	78
		64	64	64	64	70	81			
Sugar	Lb.	10.6	10.8	10.6	10.9	11.4	17.8	20.2	26.5	13.9
		6.7	6.6	6.7	7.2	7.4	9.0			
Coffee	Lb.	30.5	35.0	38.5	46.2	48.5	49.1	49.1	49.3	43.4
		30.4	30.6	30.4	30.5	30.8	41.6			
Tea	1/4 lb.	16.9	17.3	17.4	17.6	17.8	18.0	18.3	18.6	18.1
		24.2	24.3	24.0	24.0	24.1	24.3			

1/ All data from Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2/ Delivered.

Coffee sold at the same price per pound at the end of World War I and World War II. There was an immediate rise in price after World War I and the price reached 49 cents per pound at the end of 1919. In October 1946 the price of coffee averaged one-third higher than during the war, and sold at 42 cents per pound. There was little increase in tea prices after World War I. Tea sold for 50 percent more per pound during World War II than during World War I. Some increase in price of tea has been reported during the past month.

REVIEW OF THE CONTENT AND PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics has published in the National Food Situation periodically since mid-1942 both current and historical information on the food situation in the United States. Most important developments in the over-all food situation are summarized briefly. Commodity and nutritional reviews contain detailed and technical information to provide the background for interpreting food consumption trends. Technical information on production and distribution of individual foods are published in the commodity situation reports issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Special studies for the National Food Situation are planned to highlight particular developments in the broad field of food consumption.

The National Food Situation will become a quarterly publication in 1947. It will be published in January, April, July, and October. This schedule will provide for quarterly commodity reviews and revisions of statistical data using (1) goals information, the year's preview and summary for past year, in January, (2) March plantings data, (3) the July crop report, and (4) outlook data and the September and October crop reports.

Each issue of the National Food Situation will include reviews of the current and prospective conditions relating to the supply, distribution, and consumer demand for major food commodities, and a nutritional review prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics. Official U. S. Department of Agriculture estimates of apparent civilian per capita consumption of major foods which have been published each quarter during the past four years will be continued in Table 2 of each issue. Other tables which have become regular features of the National Food Situation are:

(a) Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption (indexes), Table 1.

(b) Total food disappearance: source and distribution, Table 3.

(c) Nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day, Table 4. (prepared in cooperation with Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics

(d) Production of major food commodities in quantities (next to last table of each issue).

(e) Retail food prices and total consumer price index, Bureau of Labor Statistics data (in last table of each issue).

The current series on wartime changes in food consumption will be completed in 1947. Detailed statistical data on the supply and distribution of major foods during the past 10 years will be published. The addition of special features such as the review of current books relating to food supply, distribution, and demand, and references to basic data on these topics are contemplated. Suggestions from readers of the National Food Situation as to its content and scope are welcomed.

Summary of Special Articles Published to Date

A. United States Food Production and Distribution During Recent War Periods:
- The Food Situation in World War I - NFS 4, March 1943.
- Agricultural Food Production in World War I and World War II - NFS 9, Sept. 1943
- Review of Shipments of Agricultural Commodities to Soviet Russia, December 1, 1941 to May 31, 1945 - NFS 26, June 1945.
- Food Consumption in the United States During World Wars I and II - NFS 34, May-June 1946.
- Distribution of United States Food Supplies in 1945-46 - NFS 35, July-Aug. 1946

B. Wartime Changes in Food Consumption and their Implications for Postwar Demand for Food:
- Part I - Over-all Food Supplies and Consumption - NFS 30, Nov.-Dec. 1945.
- Part II - Civilian Consumption of Major Foods - NFS 32, Feb.-Mar. 1946.
  - Section A - Meats, Fish, Poultry and Eggs - NFS 32, Feb.-Mar. 1946.
  - Section B - Dairy Products - NFS 36, Sept. 1946.
  - Section C - Fats and Oils - NFS 37, Oct. 1946.

(series still in process)

C. Food Situation in Foreign countries:
- Food Situation in Continental Europe During the War - NFS 28, Aug.-Sept. 1945
- Food Situation in Continental Europe in 1945-46 and Prospects for 1946-47- NFS 34, May-June 1946.

D. Historical Analyses of Over-all Food Consumption:
- Nutritive Value of the Civilian Per Capita Food Supply, 1920-43 - NFS 13, Feb. 1944. (Completely revised in 1946 multilithed publication of BHNHE in cooperation with BAE, Nutritive Value of the Per Capita Food Supply, 1909-45)
- New Index of Per Capita Consumption of Foods - NFS 18, July 1944.

E. Commodity Reports:
- Production and Consumption of Meat from 1909 through 1940 - NFS 8, Aug. 1943.
- Consumption of Grain Products in the United States, 1935-43 - NFS 11, Nov. 1943.
- The Production and Consumption of Poultry Products in the United States, 1909-40, NFS 11, Nov. 1943.
- Production and Consumption of Dairy Products, 1924-43 - NFS 14, March 1944.
- Supply and Distribution of Food Fats and Oils, 1912-43 - NFS 15, April 1944.
- Estimated Consumption of Vegetables, 1909-43 - NFS 19, Aug. 1944.
- Production and Consumption of Canned Soups and Canned Baby Foods, 1935-45- NFS 25, April-May 1945.
- Changes in Civilian Consumption of Sugar since 1939 - NFS 26, June 1945.
- Civilian Per Capita Consumption of Fat and Non-Fat Milk Solids, 1930-45- NFS 26, June 1945.
- Supply and Distribution of Dried Fruits, 1935-44 - NFS 28, Aug.-Sept. 1945.

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